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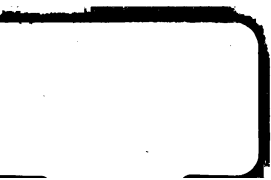
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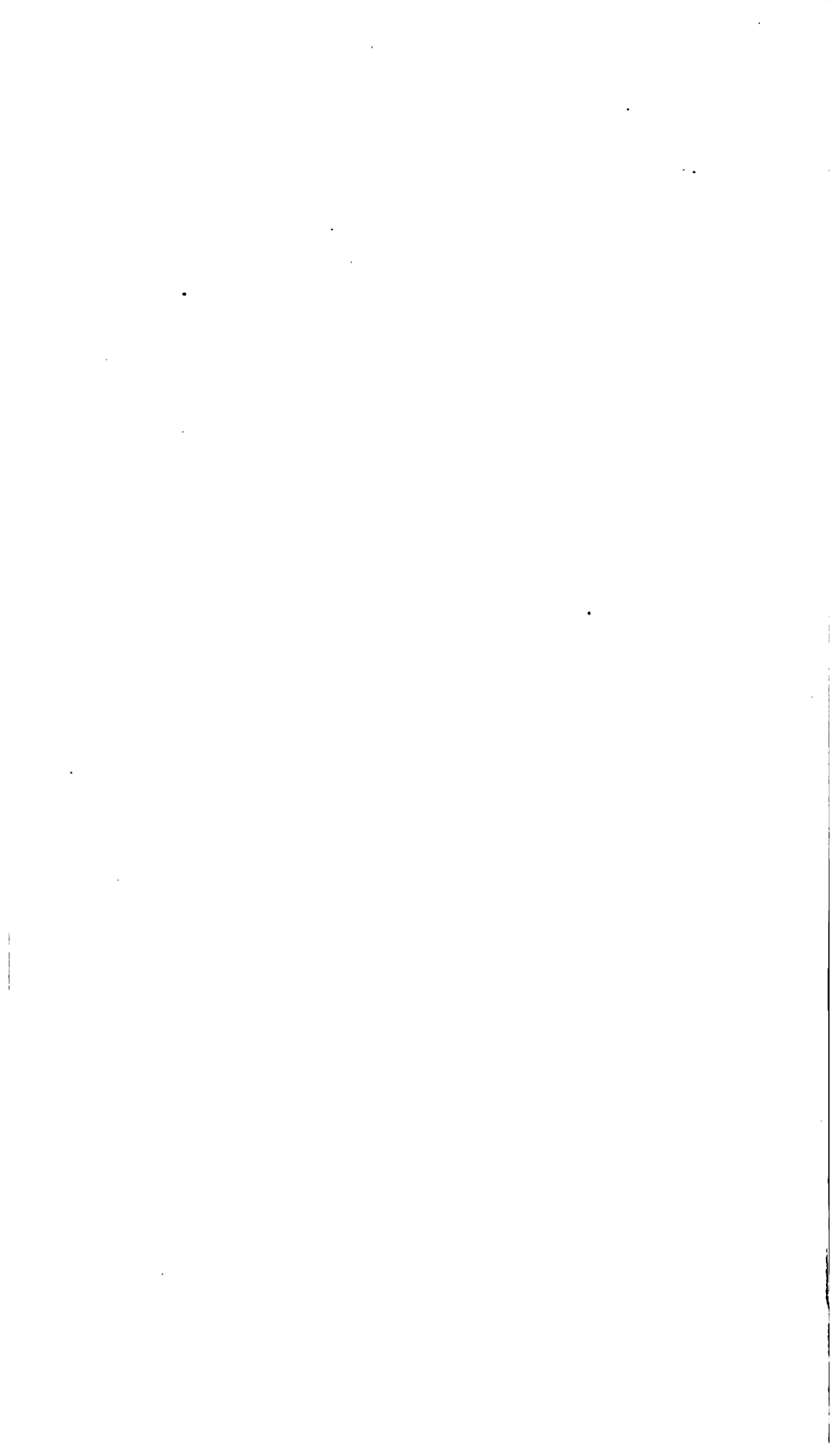
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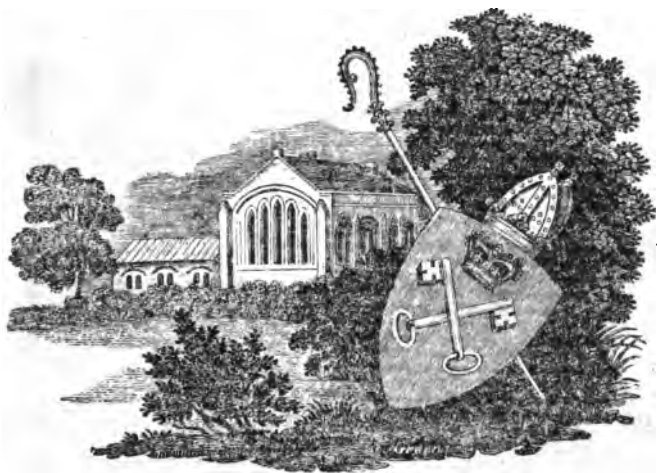


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Wm. J. Hickmole, Bar.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION
OF THE
Ancient City of York;
COMPRISING ALL THE
MOST INTERESTING INFORMATION,
Already Published in Drake's Eboracum;
ENRICHED
WITH MUCH ENTIRELY NEW MATTER,
FROM OTHER AUTHENTIC SOURCES,
AND
Illustrated with a Neat Plan of the City, and many Elegant Engravings.

By WM. HARGROVE.



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History of York:

VOL. II.

THE STRANGERS' GUIDE.

SECTION I.

History and Description of the Walls, Bars, Posterns, Towers, &c., which surround the City; including an Account of their present State.

THE account of York, from the earliest ages to the present period, as a general history, has been completed in the first volume. The author has therefore now only to particularize, in reference to that history, the various objects of interest which claim the attention of strangers. The bulwarks of our city, which in former ages afforded protection to the property and persons of our ancestors, and which, at this time encompass most of the objects that will be noticed in "*The Strangers' Guide*," have been already occasionally introduced; but not so fully as the

VOL. II.

B

curiosity they excite in travellers, seems to demand. The walls, bars, posterns, towers, &c., as to their origin and present state, are therefore entitled to priority, in this descriptive part of the work.

WALLS.

It certainly is very difficult to ascertain the precise time when the walls were built, though it is evident that York was fortified, both during the Saxon and Danish governments, as well as under the Roman power. But its walls seem to have been afterwards reduced, or entirely destroyed; and according to the greatest probability, they were rebuilt about the time in which the Scottish wars commenced, during the reign of Edward the first.

In 1327, Edward the third sent a mandate to the mayor of York, from which the following is an extract: "The king, to his well-beloved the mayor and bayliffs of the city of York, greeting—We strictly command and charge you, upon your faith and allegiance, and of the forfeiture of every thing you can forfeit to us, immediately on sight of these presents, without excuse or delay, to inspect and overlook your *walls, ditches, and towers*, and the ammunition

proper for the defence of the city ; taking with you, such of our faithful servants as will be chosen for this purpose; and to take such order for it's defence; that no danger can happen to the city by neglect of such safeguards.—And we, by these presents, give you full power and authority, to distrain and compel all and singular holders of houses or rents in the said city ; or merchants, or strangers, inhabiting the same; by the seizure of their bodies or goods; to be aiding towards the security of the walls, bulwarks, or towers; as you, in your discretion, shall think fit to ordain ; and for the making other useful and necessary works about it—punishing all those that are found to contradict or rebel against this order; by imprisonment; or what other methods you think fit.—

Dated at Durham, July 15th, 1327."

By Leland's description of York; in the reign of Henry the eighth; nearly two hundred years after the receipt of the preceding mandate; we are informed that the walls and towers were then in a complete state of defence, and that the rivers were also guarded; by chains passing across from tower to tower. He wrote nearly three hundred years ago, and thus rudely and curiously expresses himself: " The towne of York standeth

by west and est of Ouse river running through it, but that part that lyeth by est is twice as gret in building as the other. Thus goeth the waul from the ripe* of Ouse, of the est part of the cite of York: Fyrst, a grete towre with a chain of yron to cast over the Ouse, then another towre, and so to Bowdamgate—From Bowdamgate or bar to Goodramgate or bar, X towres—thens four towres to Laythorp a postern-gate, and soe by a space of two flite shotts, the blind and deep water of Fosse, cumming out of the forest of Galtres, defendeth this part of the cite without waules; then to Waumgate three towres, and thens to Fishergate, stoppid up sins the Communes burnid it yn the time of King Henry the Seventh. Thens to the ripe of Fosse have three towres, and in the three a postern; and thens over Fosse by a bridge to the castelle.

“ The west part of the cite is thus ynclosed; first a turrit, and soe the waul runneth over the side of the dungeon of the castelle on the west side of Ouse, right agayne the castelle on the est ripe. The plotte of this castelle is now called Ould Baile, and the area and ditches of it doe

—•••••—

* Bank.

manifestly appeare. Betwixt the beginnyng of the first parte of this west waule and Micklegate, be IX. towres; and, betwixt it and the ripe agayne of Ouse, be XI. towres; and at this XI. towres be a postern-gate, and the towre of it is right agayn the est towre, to draw over the chain on Ouse, betwixt them."

Sach is Leland's description of the walls of York in those days; and Camden, in his *Britannia*, mentions them as being of considerable strength. Drake, however, thus comments on Camden's remarks: "As to the great strength which this author gives to our fortifications, though our walls were then reputed strong, and long after this time stood a vigorous siege, against a very formidable army, yet the art of war has, of late years, been so much improved, that they are now of small use; and would be of little service against a modern attack."

The circumference of the walls is nearly two miles and three quarters, viz. :

	<i>Perches.</i>
From the Red Tower to Walmgate-Bar	60
Thence to Fishergate-Postern	99
..... Castlegate-Postern	58
..... Skeldergate-Postern	34
..... Micklegate-Bar	136

	<i>Perches,</i>
Thence to Northstreet-Postern	140
..... Bootham-Bar	86
..... Monk-Bar	116
..... Layerthorpe-Postern	66
..... Red Tower above-named	80

Total 875,

Or two miles, and very nearly six furlongs, an extent little inferior to that of the old walls of London; the measurement of the latter amounting only to three miles.

As for the present state of the walls, we are sorry to remark, they are rapidly falling to decay; though they are calculated to form a most delightful promenade for the citizens; at once commanding the advantages of the purest air, and most extensive and pleasing prospects; embracing the ruins of St. Mary's Abbey, Severus's Hills, and other interesting objects, diversified with the meanderings of the Foss, and the bolder windings of the Ouse, through fruitful plains and luxuriant fields. With all these privileges attached to them, soon, very soon, will the devastations of time, render these venerable remains impassable, and in short, little better than a heap of ruins; unless the citizens unite to snatch them from it's ruthless hand; and so far

restore them, as for passengers to walk with safety.

Having already had occasion, in the History, to notice the shocks and repairs which the walls have undergone, we proceed to notice the Bars and Posterns through which entrance is obtained to the city. There are four principal Gates or Bars, viz.: Micklegate-Bar, on the south-west—Bootham-Bar, on the north-west—Monk-Bar, on the north-east—and Walmgate-Bar, on the south-east. The posterns were five in number, and are thus distinguished: Northstreet-Postern, Skeldergate-Postern, Castlegate-Postern, Fishergate-Postern, and *Layrthorp*, anciently Layrethorpe-Postern.

MICKLEGATE-BAR.

MICKLEGATE-BAR, of which a beautiful plate is given in this work, was the most magnificent; and is still much admired, for it's antique structure and venerable appearance. The gate-way, or general arch, is a triplet, and supports a massy pile of gothic turrets embattled, and adorned with figures. It's chief arch, near the port-cullis, is of millstone grit, the segment of a circle. It was supposed by lord Burlington, to be of the Tuscan order, and to have been of Roman erection.

Drake coincides with his lordship in this opinion ; but seems chiefly to rest his idea of this subject, on the circumstance of it's vicinity to the Mount, which certainly appears to have been the scite of a strong outwork to the city ; and hence he concludes that the gate, which is in a line with the Mount, must have been standing at the same time as that Roman fortification. This is not improbable, particularly as the arch bears every appearance of Roman architecture ; but Sir H. C. Englefield, bart., F.R.S. & F.A.S., in a letter to the president of the Society of Antiquaries, decidedly opposed the conjectures of lord Burlington and Mr. Drake ; and Gough, in his edition of Camden's *Britannia*, says, that Mr. Essex has also confuted the idea of it's Roman origin.

In front of the bar, and over the gate-way, is placed a large shield, on which are the arms of England and France. They were formerly beautifully painted and gilt, and still retain some remains of the latter. On each side, is also placed a smaller shield, representing the arms of the city. Drake, speaking of Micklegate-Bar, says : " It appears, by a record in the pipe-office, that one Benedict Fitz-Engelram gave half a mark for licence to build a certain house upon

this bar, and sixpence annual rent for having it hereditary, the eighth of Richard the first. But this does not ascertain the age of the present structure. Yet I observe the *fleurs de lis* in the royal arms are not confined to the number three; which puts it out of doubt that they were placed there before Henry the fifth's time; who was the first that gave that particular number in his bearing."

The same writer also says: "The bar is strengthened by an outer gate, which had a massy iron chain went across; then a port-cullis, and lastly, a mighty strong double wooden gate, which is closed in every night at the usual hours. It has the character, altogether, as to ancient fortification, to be as noble and august a port as most in Europe. The inside was renewed and beautified anno 1716, R. Townes lord mayor, as appears by an inscription upon it."

Mr. Drake's account was, no doubt, correct when he wrote; but will not fully apply at the present time. Part of the walls connecting the principal with the outer gate, and on which was a terrace, has fallen down for want of timely repair. A little of the massy chain of which he speaks, is yet remaining—the large folding doors, with a small one in the centre, for foot pas-

sengers, are also perfect; but the port-cullis, which was a large wooden grate, with iron spikes at the bottom, fell, and was destroyed about eight or nine years ago.

We learn that in the reign of Henry the first, the gates and posterns were always closed at nine o'clock in the evening, and opened at four in the morning—and that men were appointed to keep watch at each of them every night: but it is almost needless to add, that no such custom now prevails.

In the city, the ascent to the tower and walls of Micklegate-Bar, is by twenty-three stone steps on the left side; and on the right, is a modern erection for foot passengers. Ascending the steps, the stranger will enter the lowest apartment in the tower, which is not inhabited; but even yet retains much of its original appearance; having in it a sloping wooden frame, or *soldiers' bedstead*, nearly the whole length of the room, with a raised part, apparently for the head to rest upon. There is also a window in front, and a large fireplace.

Two other rooms above this, are now inhabited by the families of two poor freemen of the city, who are allowed by the corporation to reside here without paying any rent. Adjoining the upper

room, is a small round tower, leading to the top, which is covered with lead, and commands a most interesting prospect of the surrounding country. Here the stranger will naturally be led to reflect on the difference of feeling excited by the present peaceful scenes, to those which must have been experienced by the strong guard of soldiers, formerly placed here to watch the motions of an inveterate enemy; and to repel, by force of arms, their hostile and destructive approach.

Those apartments are supported on the side next the city, by two stone pillars, in front of which is a flagged causeway leading to the walls, and guarded by the battlements of the bar. Over those pillars are placed the royal arms, with those of the city,

BOOTHAM-BAR.

BOOTHAM-BAR is situate not far from the ruins of the Roman multangular tower, which is on the Manor-shore, and will be mentioned hereafter. This bar is chiefly built of the grit stone, generally used by the Romans. The architecture has, by some, been termed Gothic; but it has a more modern appearance than any of the other bars, and at present is more perfect: the port-cullis, doors, &c., also still remain. On the outer front

of the bar, are placed two shields, with the arms of the city; over which is a shield within the garter, but greatly defaced. The interior of the gateway, was repaired in 1719, with free stone. On the inner front, facing the city, is a large niche over the arch, containing the stone figure of a king, in armour, imagined by some, to represent the supposed British founder of this city, mentioned in page 18 of the first volume of this work; but it is evidently of more modern costume. This figure had formerly in one hand a mound, and a sceptre in the other; but those are now decayed and gone, and a crown on the head is the only remaining insignia of royalty. It is represented in armour, such as was used about two centuries ago; the more general opinion therefore is, that this figure originally belonged to the fine stone screen, conveyed from St. Mary's Abbey to the cathedral, in the reign of James the first, and by his order. This idea is confirmed, by the circumstance of one of the figures in that screen having been removed, to make room for the statue of the royal donor.

On one side of this bar, is a watch-house for delinquents, and on the other, is a modern passage for foot travellers. Behind this passage, a flight of steps leads to the inner apartments of

the bar. These are three in number, one over another, but are much less than the apartments in Micklegate-Bar. They are occupied by two families; and from the upper room is an ascent by a small wooden ladder, to the top, which is surrounded by a wall or battlement, and is covered with lead. The view it commands, is by no means so extensive as that from Micklegate or Monk-Bar, this building being much lower than the other two.

MONK-BAR.

MONK-BAR is an ancient, light, and lofty structure, dividing Goodramgate and Monkgate. Of the etymology of each of those names, notice will be taken afterwards. The foundation of this gate is of grit stones; and on it's front, are the arms of France, quartered with those of England; which circumstance bespeaks it's antiquity. On the battlements, are placed small figures in a menacing posture. Here is no private road for foot passengers, as at the other three bars. The port-cullis is yet remaining, as are the large folding doors; but a part of the barbican at the right hand, on the entrance from Scarborough, being much out of repair, was about three years

ago taken down. In other respects, this bar is very perfect.

In removing this part of the wall, a flag stone was found, which had apparently been placed over one of the folding doors, to preserve it from the weather, probably at some period when the bars had been repaired. A similar stone is yet remaining above the door, on the left hand, but no inscription can, at present, be seen upon it. The one that was removed, and which is now in the coal-yard adjoining, proved to have been the lid of an ancient stone coffin. It is about six feet long, nearly two feet broad at the head, and tapered down to the foot, which is nineteen inches in breadth. This sepulchral remnant is not flat at the top, but sloped like the roof of a house; and on the front edge of it is the following inscription, in one line :



Which, in modern characters, may be read—
 “ HIC JACET MILICIA, QUONDAM UXOR JEREMIE DE
 LUE, &c. ;” and may be thus translated; “ *Here*
lieth Milicia, the wife of Jeremie De Lue, &c.”

The author has been thus particular, supposing that at some future period, when the other flag yet remaining in the bar, may also be taken down, a similar inscription will be found upon it; which, with the present one, may enable the curious inquirer to discover whence they have been brought, and to what period they are indebted for their origin.

This bar was formerly made use of as a prison for freemen of York; and on the left side of the gateway there is yet a watch-house. Ascending a narrow flight of more than twenty steps, you enter a passage, from which is a door upon the walls towards Bootham, and also two doors opening upon the walls of the barbican, where there is a terrace and little garden. On the right is a small room, now inhabited; and up a second flight of steps is another room, occupied by a freeman and his family. In a passage behind this, is a kind of cylinder and strong rope, as at the other bars, by which the port-cullis is let down and raised. A third flight of steps leads to a room over the whole, paved with large rough stones; and from it, other steps lead to the top of the building. Hence the eye is gratified with the most enchanting scenery; and the weariness oc-

casioned by the ascent, is compensated by delightful prospects of the surrounding district.— On one side the cathedral, rising above the adjoining houses, presents it's majestic towers, and it's noble east window. On the other side, the distant wolds, bound the intervening champaign, which is interspersed with villages, the ruins of Sheriff-Hutton castle, with rivers, plains, and gentlemen's seats, in rich variety.

WALMGATE-BAR.

The gate we have next to mention, is WALMGATE-BAR, the principal entrance from Hull. A representation of this bar is given in Vol. 1, at page 191, when speaking of the great injury it sustained during the last siege of York. Over the outer gate, the arch of which is pointed in the Gothic style, is inscribed the date when it was repaired, 1648; and though part of the barbican, or walls by which the two gates are united, has fallen down, or been removed, the folding doors and port-cullis, yet remain. The apartments over it are also inhabited, the same as those of the other gates. On the front next the city, they project considerably into the street; but this projection is formed merely of common timber

framing, supported by two stone pillars. A modern foot road has been made on one side of the bar, which certainly was highly requisite.

The walls between the Red Tower and this bar, which will be noticed in due course, are formed upon arches; the situation being very wet, and the ground consequently not firm. That part of them, however, which is about half way between Walmgate-Bar and the tower, may be considered more entire than any other part of the walls. About the length of one or two hundred yards, they seem completely to display their original form and beauty; but nearer the Foss, where they have evidently been repaired with bricks, the ravages of time have been more destructive, and their effects are more apparent.

FISHERGATE-BAR.

Passing from *Walmgate-Bar*, towards the Castle, we come to an ancient gate-way, now walled up, and covered over, the same as the other parts of the walls. It is called FISHERGATE-BAR.

Leland speaks of this old bar in the following terms: "It was burnt in Henry the seventh's tyme, by the commons of Yorkshire, who took

the citty, and would have beheaded Sir Richard Yorke, lord mayor—it has ever since been blocked up.” He also adds, that he had been informed that Walmgate-Bar was not built till after this was destroyed; but he does not seem to give much credit to the latter report. It is still a curious and interesting object, as the reader will see by the following representation.



This ruin is situated at the end of a street, that formerly run past St. George's church-yard, of which we shall speak hereafter. The ground which formed the termination of this ancient

street, is now inclosed with posts and rails; but when the bar was open, the whole passed in a curving line from Walmgate to Fishergate, and was called "*Neut-gate-lane,*" though it is at present designated "*St. George's Street.*"

Near this curious old gateway, are two inscriptions on the exterior of the wall-calls, representing Sir William Tedd, used it as a great benefactor to the reparations of the walls. One of them is thus expressed: "*ANNO DOMINI MCCCCLXXXV. SIR WILLIAM TEDD WALLS HAD THIS TOWER REPAIRS MADE TO THE GREAT BENEFIT.*" And over this inscription, is a piece of rude sculpture, representing a soldier in his robes, and a woman kneeling by him. The other inscription is not far from it, and is placed under the arms of the city. It is as follows: "*ANNO DOMINI MCCCCLXXXVI. SIR WILLIAM TEDD KNIGHT L... MAYRE THIS WALL WAS REPAIRED IN HIS DOORS LX YARDS.*"

FISHERGATE-POSTERN

At the distance of a few hundred yards from Fishergate-Bar, is a building called FISHERGATE-POSTERN; remarkable for the beauty and exactness of its symmetry, being, though built of

square stones, apparently like one solid mass. This postern is the most perfect of any of them, having been repaired and evidently new roofed. It is now inhabited by a poor freeman of the city. On the ground floor is a small apartment, from which a flight of winding stone steps leads to the top—about half way up those steps is another room, with other conveniences, and at one end of it a curious gallery, in the form of the music-gallery of a modern assembly-room; it is railed round, and is entered by a door above, from the winding staircase*.

Ascending still higher, we come to the top room, the floor of which has evidently been the original roof of the postern; as it is clearly

* Since writing the above, I find in an old manuscript, written by an antiquary of York, and presented to my Father by the late Sir John Ingilby, bart., the following curious observation: "I am told that *concerts* of music and dancing used formerly to be in Fishergate-Postern—and there have been music galleries in the upper room." Should this apparent confirmation of the remarks already made, prove correct, the musicians and dancers must have been very few in number, as the rooms are far from being spacious. Perhaps the entertainments might be termed *private* assemblies.

visible that the present pointed and tiled roof rests on the ancient battlements, the vacancies between them having been walled up with bricks. A few holes have however been made in the walls, which command a fine view of the country, the Castle, the rivers Ouse and Foss, Clifford's Tower, and other interesting objects.

CASTLEGATE-POSTERN.

CASTLEGATE-POSTERN is the second we shall here notice ; but it possesses no peculiar feature, or any degree of superiority. It is inhabited like the preceding one ; is very near the ruins of Clifford's Tower, and in the direct road to the village of Fulford, where several gentlemen of York have their country houses. This, however, is a carriage road only by sufferance, and the people at the postern have to attend to lower a post in the centre of the gateway, when any person wishes to go through with a carriage. Carts and waggons are rarely allowed to pass through it,

SKELDERGATE-POSTERN.

On the opposite side of the river, formerly stood SKELDERGATE POSTERN ; but the building was totally removed in the year 1808. There is

a ferry-boat kept near the scite of this postern, which opens a communication across the water, with the New-Walk, for one halfpenny each passenger. It is rented from the corporation, by a person whose duty it is to be in constant attendance during the day,

NORTHSTREET-POSTERN.

At NORTHSTREET-POSTERN is another ferry, also rented from the corporation; which communicates with the opposite side, either to Lendal or the Manor-Shore, for the same trifling sum as the one above-named. This building formerly served the double purposes of a postern and a watch-tower for the river, as mentioned in the extract lately given from Leland; and it is yet used as a dwelling for the ferryman. It consists of two apartments below, with smaller conveniences; and rooms over them. It's form is octagon; and the building yet seems to be in very good repair,

LAYERTHORP-POSTERN,

LAYERTHORP-POSTERN is the fifth and last we have to mention. It is in the same direction as Monk-Bar, and like that structure, it formerly

gilded one of the windows in the tower.
The following is a representation of the
building, as it appeared a few years since.



The situation of this postern seems to have
placed it in a very strong position, having been
built at the end of Layerthorp-Bridge, with the
river running by foot.

Time has made great alterations in this once
strong and comely edifice; and at present it is
only a ruin; the archway and folding doors being
the principal parts of the original building which
now remain. It has been said by some, that Layer-
thorp-Postern was formerly defended by a port-
cullis, the same as the bars; but the writer, after
close investigation, could not discover any remains
of the grooves in which the port-cullis must have

moved, had there been any such peculiarity connected with this building.

In addition to the bars and posterns, there were at different distances in the walls, several small rooms or cells, and many towers*, a few of which remain. Some of them are nearly perfect, whilst others are now seen only in ruins. The principal of these is called

THE MULTANGULAR TOWER.

This tower is facing the Manor-Shore, at a short distance from Bootham-Bar; and with the wall adjoining, is evidently of Roman architecture. It was thus described to the Royal Society, by Dr. Lister, after the most minute examination;

“ Carefully viewing the antiquities of York, the dwelling of at least two of the Roman emperors, Severus and Constantius, I found a part of a wall yet standing, which is undoubtedly of that time. It is the south wall of the Mint-Yard, and consists of a Multangular Tower, which did lead to Bootham-Bar, and part of a wall, which ran the length of *Coning-street*, as he who shall attentively view it on both sides may discern.

* See pages 8, 9.

“ The outside to the river, is faced with a very small *saxum quadratum* of about four inches thick, and laid in levels like our modern brick-work. The length of the stones is not observed, but they are as they fell out, in hewing. From the foundation, twenty courses of these small squared stones are laid, and over them five courses of Roman brick. These bricks are placed some length-ways, some end-ways in the wall, and were called *lateres diptoni*; after these five courses of brick, other twenty-two courses of small square stones, as before described, are laid, which raise the wall some feet higher, and then five more courses of the same Roman bricks; beyond which the wall is imperfect, and capped with modern building. In all this height, there is not any casement or loophole, but one entire and uniform wall; from which we may infer that this wall was built some courses higher, after the same order. The bricks were to be as thoroughs, or as it were so many new foundations, to that which was to be superstructed, and to bind the two sides together firmly; for the wall itself is only faced with small square stone, and the middle thereof filled with mortar and pebble,

“These bricks are about seventeen inches long, of our measure, about eleven inches broad, and two and a half thick. This, having caused several to be carefully measured, I give in round numbers, and do find them to agree very well with the Roman foot, which the learned antiquary, *Graves*, has left us, viz., of it's being about half an inch less than ours. They seem to have shrunk in the baking, more in the breadth than in the length, which is but reasonable, because of it's easier yielding that way; and so, for the same reason, more in thickness; for we suppose them to have been designed in the mold of three Roman inches. This demonstrates *Pliny's* measures to be true, where he says, *genera laterum tria didoron, quo utimur longum sesquipede, latum pede*; and not those of *Vitruvius*, where they are extant; the copy of *Vitruvius*, where it describes the *Didoron* and it's measures, being vitious. And indeed all I have yet seen with us in England, are of *Pliny's* measure, as at *Leicester*, in the Roman ruin there, called the *Jews-wall*, and at *St. Albans*, as I remember, as well as with us, at *York*.

“I shall only add this remark, that proportion and uniformity, even in the minutest parts of

building, are to be plainly observed, as this ruin of Roman workmanship shews. In our Gothic buildings, there is a total neglect of measure and proportion of the courses, as though that was not much material to the beauty of the whole; whereas, indeed, in nature's works, it is from the symmetry of the very grain whence arises much of the beauty."

Dr. Langwith remarks that this manner of building with brick and stone was, originally, *African*; and as *Severus* was an African by birth, it is highly probable that it was introduced here by that emperor.

The description by Dr. Lister, is given in Drake's *Eboracum*, with the following additional observations: "I have to remark upon this very particular description of the Doctor's, that the stones of the wall are not of the grit-kind, but of the common free-stone; there being no occasion to fear fire in an exterior part of a fortification. Next, that the building of the tower is the same on the inside of it, as on the out, and has a communication with Bootham-Bar, under the *vallum* or rampart, that hides it that way. The foundation of this tower, is of a singular shape and strength, the angle it commands requiring the latter in an

extraordinary degree. And the form of it comes the nearest a circle, that any such building can admit of. The wall that runs from it south-east, makes a streight line, and no doubt, anciently went along the east side of Conyng-street, as far as the Foss; the foundations of all the houses in the line, discovering the marks of it. I saw a piece of it laid open in Lendal, about twenty or thirty yards below the Mint-Yard gates, which happened by an accident of digging a drain. But the cement, that composed this fragment, was so exceedingly hard, the workmen had much ado to lower it to their level—in their way, they threw up a small *denarius* or two, but they were obliterated. What this very high wall and particular fortification, without any *vallum*, and on this side of the river, could serve for, I cannot conjecture.”

Hence we may easily conceive, how strongly Eboracum had once been fortified. The city flanked on the west and east, by two rivers, meeting in one point south-ward, was also protected on the north, by an impenetrable forest; and those natural bulwarks were aided by strong walls and towers, of which a fine specimen still remains in the mouldering ruins of the Roman

tower and wall already described ; and of which a vignette representation is given in the title-page of the first volume, supporting the arms of the city.

THE RED TOWER.

This tower is so called, from having been built of bricks. It is situated not far from Walmgate-Bar, at the end of the walls, with which it evidently is connected ; the foundations are of the same stone as the walls ; and the building adjoins the river Foss. The shape of this structure was originally square, and though now in ruins, it retains some of the loopholes, formed with stone, the same as those in the walls. The architecture is certainly very ancient ; but of what period, is uncertain ; some have imagined it to be Roman ; and if not of so early a date, it must have been erected soon after the departure of that people. The bricks are of different sorts, corresponding with the times when it was repaired ; but the oldest of them are longer, broader, and thinner than those of our day ; and seem to consist of as much sand as clay.

It commanded what is now called the Foss Island ; but which formerly was one continued sheet of water, to Layerthorp-Postern ; as there

are no walls on that side the city. Indeed, it is clear that here was the grand bay of the Romans; the bason, or dock, of more than a mile in circumference; and though it is now a mere morass, where weeds grow with luxuriance, yet we are informed, that the merchants of the city formerly lived along the banks of the Foss, and erected their warehouses upon them, even to Layerthorp-Bridge. The circumstance of broken planks of boats, iron rings, and anchors, having been dug up hereabouts, confirms the opinion, that near this tower, Roman ships, galleys, and pleasure boats, were once seen displaying all the hurry of mercantile importance, and all the splendour of ancient naval pride and dignity.

There is a tradition that this tower, in more modern times, was used as a manufactory for brimstone; and amongst the lower orders, it is now called, *the brimstone house*. It's latest occupiers, with their implements of manufacture, no doubt, hastened it's dissolution; and occasioned the miserable appearance which it has long presented to the eye; and which seems to have prevented Drake, and other historians, from more fully noticing this ancient structure.

LENDAL TOWER.

Lendal Tower is near the street called Lendal, and close by the river Ouse, on the opposite side to Northstreet-Postern, already described. When the fortifications of the city were complete, a chain passed across the river from each of these towers; but, when they became neglected, this building was converted into a warehouse; and, in 1682, the tower was repaired, and an engine was placed in it, for the purpose of supplying the citizens with water. We shall therefore have again to notice this erection, under the distinct head of “*The Water-Works.*”

THE ROOMS OR CELLS.

These small rooms or cells, are under the promenade of the walls, and were formerly used as store-houses for ammunition. One of them, in particular, was even occupied a few years ago, by the York Local Militia, for that purpose; but generally speaking, they, like the rest of the bulwarks, are fast hastening to decay.

The reader has now been presented with a description of the walls, bars, and posterns, which

formerly guarded, and might yet adorn the ancient city of York. If we may be allowed to judge of future events by the past, and, if we take into view the effects of the desolating hand of time, it will be natural to suppose, that a period will arrive, when the stranger may have to inquire of the citizen of the once regal Eboracum: "*Where stood the walls of your ancestors?*"

Such a consideration increased the interest which the author of this work, attached to those venerable remains, and urged him to be minute in describing their present condition. This duty performed, he now hastens to notice the various objects within those walls, which seem to solicit public and general attention.

SECTION II.

*Historical Description of the Cathedral—List of the
Archbishops—Present Religious Service—List and
Description of Monuments—Vestries, and their
Curiosities, with the Chapter-House, &c.*

THE Cathedral Church of St. Peter, may be considered the greatest ornament of this ancient city, and an honor to the nation in which it stands; being one of the largest and most magnificent structures of the kind in Europe. To compare it with St. Paul's, in London, would be to compare a beautiful edifice of the most elegant lightness, with a massy style of architecture. The latter indeed, is admirable of it's kind, and may excite no small attention; but when the eye of a stranger surveys York minster, delicate symmetry combined with strength in full proportion to it's magnitude, produces an effect on the mind, which at once delights the feelings of the beholder, and excites his most ardent admiration.

Without offering to the reader an account of the state or progress of religion in this country, during those dark ages of superstition which preceded the arrival of the Romans, we shall, in this historical memoir of the cathedral, briefly observe, that during the time of Constantine the Great, the Christian religion flourished with increasing vigour, beneath the mild government of his enlightened reign.

Hence, before the departure of the Romans, many monuments of Christianity had arisen and adorned the island ; but, the Saxon invaders consigned them to destruction ; and on their ruins, bigotry and idolatry erected a standard, with bold and daring effrontery.

In the year 626, however, Edwin, the Saxon king of Northumberland, whose residence was in this city, became a convert to the Christian faith, under the teaching of Paulinus, a priest sent from the court of Rome ; but the city had been reduced to so low a condition, as not to furnish a temple suitable for performing the ceremony of baptism. A small oratory of wood was therefore erected for the occasion, on the scite occupied by the present minster, and was dedicated to St. Peter. In this building, the king and his

two sons, Osfrid and Edfrid, with many of the nobility, were solemnly baptized, on Easter-day, April 12th, 627.

Paulinus was soon afterwards consecrated archbishop of York; and, in this station, possessed so much influence over that sovereign; as to induce him to lay the foundation of a magnificent stone building; which included the wooden oratory, in order that divine worship might be performed in it, until the new fabric should be completed. The building proceeded without interruption, till it was nearly ready for the roof; when that prince fell in battle, at Hatfield, near Doncaster, and this prelate, in consequence, found himself obliged to leave England. The minster was, however, finished by Oswald; who soon after succeeded to the throne of Northumbria; but scarcely had this monarch completed the good work, before he also was slain in battle, against Penda, the pagan king of Mercia; and the building, becoming a prey to this barbarous monarch, was almost demolished.

The venerable Bede informs us that this edifice of stone, was a square structure, and was dedicated to St. Peter; the feast of which dedication was long held here annually, with great

solemnity, on the first day of October, and the seven following days; but, says Torre, "The order for making this a *double* festival, was not issued till the year 1462."

After the departure of Paulinus, the church remained a considerable time without a pastor. Wilfrid was then appointed archbishop, and was sent to the bishop of Paris for consecration. He, however, was absent so long, that the king of Northumberland placed Cedda, abbot of Lestingham, in his station; but the latter, after enjoying the see about three years, resigned it to Wilfrid. This prelate, may consequently be considered as the third archbishop of York.

In the ruinous condition before-mentioned, Wilfrid found the church in 669. He therefore, with the utmost vigour, repaired the walls, and renewed the roof, which he covered with lead. In every other respect, he also rendered it fit for the celebration of divine worship. Thus it continued, with little alteration, for many years; in the course of which, the noble library of archbishop Egbert, who had appointed the learned *Alcuin* his librarian, was bestowed upon it, and no doubt, was then it's most valuable treasure.

Having had occasion to mention the name of Alcuin, often called *Flaccus Albinus*, a celebrated character, who, by some, has been considered a native of this city; and who, it is certain, was brought up and educated here; we trust the introduction of the following extract from "*Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons*," will not be thought too great a digression; particularly as it evinces the advanced state of literature in York, during the eighth century, of which we are now writing:

"*Alcuin*, the literary friend and preceptor of Charlemagne, is entitled to the most honorable notice among the Saxon literati of the eighth century—He was born in Northumbria, and studied at York, under Egbert. He says of himself, that he was nourished and educated at York.

"He was sent on an embassy from Offa to that prince, and after this period, the emperor was so highly attached to him, that in 790, he went to France, and settled there. Here he composed many works on the sciences and arts, which were valued in that day, for the use and instruction of Charlemagne. These still exist, as do a number of letters from Alcuin to his royal pupil, with the

answers of the emperor. Many poems also appear in his works, addressed to this monarch, on a variety of topics, under the name of David, and written in the most affectionate language. He was indefatigable in exciting this prince to the love and encouragement of learning, and in the collection of MSS, for it's dissemination. His efforts spread literature through France, and his reputation contributed much to establish it in Europe. After the enjoyment of imperial affection and confidence, to a degree which this science has never experienced in any other instance, he retired to the abbey of St. Martin, at Tours, where he died in 804. Two quotations from one of his letters to Charlemagne, will show the excellence of his heart and mind;

“ The employments of your Alcuin, in his retreat, are suited to his humble sphere; but they are neither inglorious nor unprofitable. I spend my time in the halls of St. Martin, in teaching some of the noble youths under my care, the intricacies of grammar, and inspiring them with a taste for the learning of the ancients; in describing to others the order and revolutions of those shining orbs, which adorn the azure vault of heaven; and in explaining to others the mysteries of divine wisdom, which are contained in the Holy Scriptures; suiting my instructions to the views and capacities of my scholars, that I may train

up many to be ornaments to the church of God, and to the court of your imperial majesty. In doing this, I find a great want of several things, particularly of those excellent books in all arts and sciences, which I enjoyed in my *native country*, through the expense and care of my great master Egbert. May it therefore please your majesty, animated with the most ardent love of learning, to permit me to send some of our young gentlemen into England, to procure for us those books which we want, and transplant the flowers of Britain into France, that their fragrance may no longer be *confined to York*, but may perfume the palaces of Tours."

"I need not put your majesty in mind, how earnestly we are exhorted, in the Holy Scriptures, to the pursuit of wisdom; than which nothing is more conducive to a pleasant, happy, and honorable life; nothing a greater preservative from vice; nothing more becoming or more necessary, to those especially who have the administration of public affairs, and the government of empires: Learning and wisdom exalt the low, and give additional lustre to the honours of the great. By wisdom kings reign, and princes decree justice. Cease not then, O most gracious king! to press the young nobility of your court to the eager pursuit of wisdom and learning in their youth, that they may attain to an honourable old age, and a blessed immortality. For my own part, I will never cease, according to my abilities, to sow the seeds of learning in the minds of your subjects in these parts;

mindful of the saying of the wisest man—‘ In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand ; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that.’ To do this, hath been the most delightful employment of my whole life. In my youthful years, I sowed the seeds of learning in the flourishing seminaries of my native soil of Britain, and in my old age I am doing the same in France ; praying to God that they may spring up and flourish in both countries. I know also, O prince beloved of God, and praised by all good men ! that you exert all your influence in promoting the interests of learning and religion ; more noble in your actions than in your royal birth. May the Lord Jesus Christ preserve and prosper you in all your great designs, and at length bring you to the enjoyment of celestial glory.”

“ How few princes,” it is added, “ enjoy the happiness of such a correspondence ; or have the wisdom and virtue to encourage it !”

Alcuin appears to have received his first rudiments of learning under venerable Bede, and to have completed his education under Egbert, archbishop of York, more than one thousand years ago. He is said, by Bale, to have written above thirty pious and learned books, among which was an historical account of the archbishops of York, down to his patron Egbert ; in

latin verse, since published by the learned antiquary dean Gale. His works were printed together, at Paris, in 1617, in one volume folio.

Alcuin was certainly the most extraordinary instance of learning and piety, of any who flourished in so early an age; nay, we may safely add, that he is surpassed by few, even in our enlightened day; he therefore deserves peculiar notice in the History of York, and his memory must ever be respected by the lovers of literary superiority and moral excellence, particularly by those of the city of his early years.

After the digression respecting this learned author, we return to the history of our cathedral. Of this, but little mention is made from the time when Egbert's library was bestowed upon it, to 741, in which year we find it suffered much by fire. Archbishop Albert, a learned native, who was promoted to the see in 767, took it entirely down, in consequence of the damage occasioned by the fire. He, assisted by *Eanbald* who succeeded him, and the learned *Alcuin*, of whom we have spoken, also rebuilt it in the most sumptuous and magnificent Saxon style.

That those men were well skilled in architecture, will not appear surprising, when we

reflect that it was customary for the religious in those days, to build their own abbeys and cathedrals. Such, however, is the uncertainty of human events, that Albert was not permitted to enjoy the building he had erected; for, on the eighth of November, 780, being but ten days after it's consecration, he departed this life.

The noble library which Egbert had founded, was greatly augmented by Albert; with the addition of a valuable collection of books, which he had procured on his travels abroad, in his younger days.

From this period, history is silent respecting our cathedral, till the year 1069, when the Northumbrians, aided by the Danes, attempted to overthrow the power of the Norman conqueror, and besieged York. The garrison set fire to several houses in the suburbs, and a brisk wind blowing towards the city, extended the flames even to the cathedral, which, with it's valuable library, was burnt to the ground.

The church being in this situation, the conqueror seized it's revenues, and expelled the canons from their stalls. He however, soon afterward made Thomas, a canon of Bayeux, in Normandy, who was his chaplain and treasurer,

archbishop of this province; and to him restored the revenues, &c., in the year 1070. This prelate rebuilt the church with increased splendour and magnificence, recalled the banished ecclesiastics, and placed it in a condition superior to that of any former period.

Thus it remained till the month of June, 1137, when it again fell a sacrifice to a dreadful fire, as mentioned at page 71, in the first volume of this work. The sacred edifice laid in ruins till the year 1171, when archbishop Roger, began to rebuild the choir, and happily lived to complete it.

Walter de Grey, succeeded Roger, and in the year 1227, the reign of Henry the third, he added the south part of the cross aisle or transept; and an *indulgence* was that year granted by the archbishop, of forty days *relaxation* to those benefactors who should contribute liberally towards this erection. It is certainly a beautiful specimen of the style of architecture in those days, when the heavy pillar gave place to a cluster of light and elegant columns, adorned with luxuriant foliage—the windows also are made high, narrow, and pointed, and the roof is decorated with beautiful tracery.

In 1260, John le Romain, father of the archbishop of that name, and then treasurer of the church, erected the north part of the transept, and raised a steeple in the middle. His son, the archbishop, in 1291, personally laid the foundation of the nave, from the west end, eastward, in the presence of the dean, precentor, and canons, arrayed in their richest copes, &c. The materials for building the nave, were contributed by Robert de Vavasour, who granted the use of his quarry near Tadcaster, both for building and repairing the minster; and the wood for the roofing, was also given by Robert de Percy, lord of Boulton, from his wood there. The memory of each is preserved by statues, erected at the eastern and western ends of the building; at the latter of which, Vavasour is represented by a statue holding a rude block of stone, and Percy, by one holding a piece of timber. Above them, is the figure of the founder of the nave, seated on his throne; with the representation of a cathedral supported on one of his hands*.

* Those statues, and other figures at the west end, being much decayed by the lapse of time, were taken down in 1818, and others exactly resembling the originals,

In 1320, William de Melton carried forward the building commenced by his predecessor, and in 1330, completed the west end, together with its two steeples, as they appear at the present day; and rebuilt the middle one. In this work, he is said to have expended seven hundred pounds of his own money; and we may be certain he also received large contributions from the nobility and other religious devotees, for he followed the example of archbishop Walter de Grey, as we find by the following document now on record. It is given as a curious proof of the blind credulity, which, at that period, enveloped the inhabitants of this city:

“ Kal. Feb. Anno 1320.

“ William de Melton, archbishop, granted an indulgence of forty days relaxation to all such well-disposed people, as pleased to extend their charitable contributions towards the building of the late prostrate fabrick; whereby he might be the better enabled to finish so noble a structure, then newly begun.”

were placed in their situations. The workmanship of them is very fine, and reflects much credit on Mr. Shout, who directs and superintends the ornamental department of the stone work at the cathedral.

increase, till the archbishop found himself enabled not only to rebuild the tower, but also to improve the lantern steeple erected by John le Romain, which was now likewise thought inferior to the rest of the edifice.

About this time, Walter Skirlaw, prebendary of Fenton, archdeacon of the east-riding, and afterwards bishop of Litchfield and Durham, gave a very handsome donation for the purpose. The old steeple was accordingly taken down, in 1370, and the erection of the present tower was begun; but seven or eight years elapsed before it was finally completed.

When the choir was finished is not known; but the arms of Scrope, (now generally written Scroope) and Bowet, the latter of whom entered upon the see in 1406, appearing on the stone work and in the windows, render it highly probable it was not completed as at present, till that year.

Thus rose, in the long period of more than two centuries, this grand specimen of the progressive improvement of Norman architecture; the extensive design and exquisite workmanship of which have, through many ages, commanded universal admiration—admiration, that doubtless

will increase with succeeding ages, so long as the productions of superior genius stand approved by men ; or the perception of noble objects can interest and expand the mind.

Before we enter upon a particular description of the present state of the building, we shall give a list of the archbishops of this province ; as some of them will have to be mentioned when enumerating the monuments within this spacious and elegant edifice.

It appears that soon after the introduction of Christianity, there were bishops in England ; but, as might be expected, they lived in obscurity, and were objects of persecution during the reigns of the Pagan emperors. When Constantine had embraced the religion of Christ, the peace of the church was for a time secured ; and we are informed by historians, that the bishops of York and London, with a third, supposed to have been from Wales, attended the council of Arles, in the year 347. But the reader will recollect that the Romans were succeeded by the Saxons ; who, by interposing the darkness of idolatry, again impeded the progress of the light of religion and of literature. We have however stated, that Edwin king of Northumbria, was converted in 625 ; and

that Paulinus, who was the means of his conversion, was the first archbishop of York after that period; with this prelate, therefore, the list is commenced, and the date when each entered upon the see, is annexed to the respective names.

ARCHBISHOPS OF YORK.

<i>No.</i>	<i>NAMES.</i>	<i>Date.</i>
1.	Paulinus The Apostle of the Northumbrians.	625
2.	Cedda Previously Abbot of Lestingham.	664
3.	Wilfrid Of an obscure family, but possessing great genius. He founded the monastery of Ripon, and was buried there.	669
4.	Bosa The first archbishop who was interred in the cathedral.	677
5.	St. John of Beverley Retired to Beverley; died, and was buried there.	692
6.	Wilfrid the second	718
7.	Egbert Brother to Eadbert, king of Northumberland, and the friend of Alcuin, and of literature.	731
8.	Albert	767
9.	Eanbald	780
10.	Eanbald the second	797
11.	Wulsius	812
12.	Wimundus	831

No.	NAMES.	Date.
13.	Wilferus	854
The Danish invasion occurring during the time of Wilferus, he fled into Mercia, but was recalled the following year.		
14.	Ethelbald	900
15.	Redwardus	921
16.	Wulstan	930
This prelate espoused the cause of Anlaff, the Danish king of Northumbria, against Edred, the king of England—He was committed to prison by the latter, but was soon released and restored to office.		
17.	Oskitell	955
18.	Athelwold	971
Resigned his prelacy the first year, and lived and died in retirement.		
19.	Oswald	971
He had previously been a monk in the monastery of Floriac, in France.		
20.	Adulf	992
A pious and worthy prelate.		
21.	Wulstan the second	1002
22.	Alfric Puttock	1023
23.	Kinsius	1050
A man of great austerity, mostly walking barefoot in his visitations.		
24.	Aldred	1060
Aldred is said to have made his way by bribes, and was the last archbishop of the Saxon race.		
25.	Thomas	1070
This prelate was a Norman; he died at Ripon, and was buried in our cathedral.		

- | <i>No.</i> | <i>NAMES.</i> | <i>Date.</i> |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|
| 26. | Gerard | 1100 |
| He, as well as his predecessor, refused obedience to Canterbury, but at length submitted, by command of the Pope. | | |
| 27. | Thomas the second | 1109 |
| 28. | Thurstan | 1114 |
| Never submitted to Canterbury, and in his old age retired to a monastery at Pontefract, where he died. | | |
| 29. | Henry Murdac | 1140 |
| This prelate was interred in the cathedral, though during his life, he never was permitted to enter the city, having quarrelled with king Stephen, whose part the canons and citizens warmly espoused. He lived and died at Beverley. | | |
| 30. | St. William | 1153 |
| A man of great piety, canonized one hundred and twenty-five years after his death, and his bones were then removed to the nave of the cathedral. | | |
| 31. | Roger | 1154 |
| Supposed to have been concerned in the murder of Thomas-a-Becket ; but he, by oath, denied the imputation. | | |
| 32. | Geoffry Plantagenet | 1190 |
| Natural son of Henry the second, by fair Rosamond.—He died in exile, at Grosmont, in Normandy. | | |
| 33. | Walter de Grey | 1216 |
| He paid the Pope ten thousand pounds for his pall ; and also purchased the manor of Thorp, now called Bishopthorpe, for the archbishops of York. | | |
| 34. | Sewal | 1256 |
| He was excommunicated, for opposition respecting the preferment to ecclesiastical dignities ; but received absolution when on his death-bed. | | |
| 35. | Godfrey de Ludham | 1258 |
| He appropriated Mexborough to his church ; and it has been since that period annexed to the deanery of York. | | |

<i>No.</i>	<i>NAMES.</i>	<i>Date.</i>
36.	Walter Giffard	1265
37.	William Wickwane	1279
38.	John le Romaine	1285
39.	Henry de Newark	1298
40.	Thomas Corbridge	1299
41.	William de Grenfield	1305

This prelate was obliged to travel to Rome, for the papal approbation, and to wait two years before he could obtain it.

42.	William de Melton	1315
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A pious and active prelate.

43.	William de la Zouch	1340
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Famous for his courage at the battle of Neville's Cross, near Durham.

44.	John Thoresby	1352
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Of an ancient family at Thoresby, near Middleham. In his time, the archbishop of York was made, by the Pope, primate of England; and the archbishop of Canterbury, primate of ALL England—to prevent the disputes which had previously existed between the two.

45.	Alexander Neville	1374
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A favourite of Richard the second—but he was obliged to flee from his country, and died an exile, at Louvain, in great poverty.

46.	Thomas Arundel	1388
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He was also lord high Chancellor of England.

47.	Robert Waldby	1396
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A native of York, and a friar in the monastery of St. Augustine, in this city. He was a great proficient in all kinds of literature.

48.	Richard Scroope	1398
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Betrayed, and beheaded for Rebellion.—See p. 107, of the 1st vol.

<i>No.</i>	<i>NAMES.</i>	<i>Date.</i>
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49.	Henry Bowet	1407
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A very liberal and hospitable man, but not otherwise remarkable.

50.	John Kempe	1426
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A man of humble parentage in Kent. He became lord high Chancellor of England, and a cardinal of the see of Rome.

51.	William Bothe	1452
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52.	George Neville	1464
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This prelate was brother to the famous earl of Warwick. He was prosperous in his younger days; but on the death of the earl, at the battle of Barnett, he was accused of treason, imprisoned four years, and died of a broken heart, soon after his liberation.

53.	Lawrence Bothe	1476
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He purchased the manor of Battersea, in Surry, and settled it on the church of York.

54.	Thomas de Rotherham	1480
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A native of Rotherham, made lord high Chancellor, but was afterwards committed to prison.—He died at an advanced age, at Cawood, of the plague, and on that account, was interred in effigy, in the cathedral.

55.	Thomas Savage	1501
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More of a courtier and a sportsman, than of an ecclesiastic.

56.	Christopher Bainbridge	1508
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Was sent ambassador to the court of Rome, where he was made a cardinal; but having struck at his steward, an Italian priest, the man, through revenge, poisoned his master.

57.	Thomas Wolsey	1514
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A celebrated unfortunate cardinal, well known in English History. He was a most remarkable instance of the uncertainty of human power, and is believed to have closed his own life, by poison, in the hour of adversity. The following remark which

he made a short time before his death, is worthy of particular notice: "*If I had served my God with half the zeal that I have served my king, he would not, in my grey hairs, have thus forsaken me.*"

58. Edward Lee 1531

Was seized by the insurgents, concerned in the Pilgrimage of Grace, and obliged to take an oath of fidelity to them; but he was afterwards pardoned for this offence. The reformation made great progress in his time.

59. Robert Holgate 1544

A monk friendly to the reformation, and consequently patronized by Henry; but, in the reign of Mary, his property was seized, and himself committed to the tower. He died in obscurity at Hemsworth, near Pontefract.

60. Nicholas Heath 1555

A learned Roman Catholic priest, to whose exertions the see of York is indebted for the recovery of a great part of it's present revenues. He was patronized by Mary, but was deprived of his dignities by Elizabeth; who, however, respected his merit, and allowed him to retire to his estate at Cobham.

61. Thomas Young 1561

A selfish character, who took down the great hall in the palace at York, for the sake of the lead that covered it.

62. Edmund Grindal 1570

63. Edwin Sandys 1576

64. John Piers 1588

A learned and virtuous prelate. He was never married.

65. Matthew Hutton 1594

He was a man of humble origin, but of great merit.

66. Tobias Matthew 1606

An extempore and eloquent preacher.

67. George Montaign 1628

The son of a poor farmer, who resided at Cawood.

<i>No.</i>	<i>NAMES.</i>	<i>Date,</i>
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68.	Samuel Harsnet	1629
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69.	Richard Neile	1631
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This prelate was also of humble origin, but of great merit,

70.	John Williams	1641
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After warmly supporting the king, he turned round, and commanding at the siege of Aberconway, reduced it to the obedience of parliament.

71.	Acceptus Frewen	1660
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After the see had remained vacant ten years, this person was appointed. He lived in a state of celibacy, and would not even have a female servant.

72.	Richard Sterne	1664
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He wrote a treatise on Logic, and was particularly worthy of his high station.

73.	John Dolben	1683
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He was a soldier in his younger days, and served as an ensign at the battle of Marston-Moor, where he was dangerously wounded by a musket-ball.

74.	Thomas Lamplugh	1688
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A staunch supporter of the doctrines of the church of England, and a liberal benefactor to the cathedral.

75.	John Sharp	1691
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A man of learning, eloquence, and of the most virtuous principles,

76.	Sir William Dawes	1713
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A man of exemplary conduct.

77.	Lancelot Blackburne	1724
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78.	Thomas Herring	1742
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79.	Matthew Hutton	1747
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80.	John Gilbert	1757
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<i>No.</i>	<i>NAMES.</i>	<i>Date.</i>
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81. Robert Drummond	1761
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He was esteemed a great man, both in learning and virtue.

82. William Markham	1777
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This prelate was educated at Westminster School, and afterwards removed to Christ Church, Oxford. About 1750, he was appointed Head Master of Westminster School; 1759, prebendary of Durham; 1765, dean of Rochester; 1767, dean of Christ Church; 1771, bishop of Chester, and was also chosen preceptor to his royal highness the prince of Wales; and in 1777, translated to the see of York. He died Nov. 3d, 1807, aged 89, and was interred in Westminster Abbey.

83. Hon. Edwd. Venables Vernon,	L. L. D.	1808
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Who is the present archbishop of York. His Grace was born in 1757, educated at Westminster School, and afterwards removed to Christ Church, Oxford. He is fellow of All-Souls' College, chaplain to the king, and prebendary of Gloucester. In 1785, he was appointed canon of Christ Church; in 1791, bishop of Carlisle, and was translated to the see of York in 1808. We trust that in speaking deservedly of this prelate, we shall not be charged with flattery; for, in him, we see endearing affability without unbecoming condescension. As a teacher, his precepts are clear and forcible; and they are established by a practice highly consistent.

Here, it may not be improper to remark, that the archbishop of York is primate and metropolitan of England, and consequently has the honor of crowning the queen.

A description of the Minster, next claims our attention; and the exterior of it, will properly be first noticed.

EXTERIOR OF THE MINSTER.

The cathedral is too much enclosed with houses, to present the south front of the building at one view; several erections have, however, lately been removed; and we are glad to find, that it is intended to take down many more. Between the foot road or passage into the minster-yard, and the deanery, nearly opposite to the south transept, is the best situation for a general view of this elegant structure.

Here the south entrance, now generally used, appears to advantage. The ascent to the building is by a handsome flight of stone steps, and over the large door way, is fixed the clock, with windows on each side. Above them is a larger gothic window of painted glass, and over it a circular window of very fine masonry and richly variegated glass, in imitation of the marygold flower, sometimes called *St. Catharine's Wheel*, which adds much to the decoration of this part of the minster. The summit is crowned with neat and elegant turrets; on the centre one of which is the figure of a *fiddler*—that, however, is a singular accompaniment for a place of worship, and does not tend to increase the dignified appearance

of the sacred edifice. In this transept also, are seen a number of narrow and acutely pointed arches, with slender pillars, crowned with plain or slightly ornamented capitals. The windows here are much smaller than those in other parts of the building.

After the reformation, one of the deans leased out the ground on each side of the steps, at this entrance, for building houses and shops. These were standing, in the manner represented in Hollar's Draught of this part of the minster, in the Monasticon; and remained, until dean Gale suffered the leases to expire, and cleansed this beautiful building from those monuments of his predecessor's avarice and folly.

The lantern steeple, or great tower, may here be observed, and though much larger than the others, it perfectly corresponds with the magnitude of this part of the building. In 1666, a turret was erected on the top of this tower, to place lights in, as a beacon in case of invasion; a prayer bell was afterwards hung in it; and a large copper figure of a cock, the emblem of watchfulness, and of Peter's faithless conduct towards his Lord and Master, was fixed on the top of the turret; but they have all been

removed*; and we are glad to hear there is at present an intention of forming an ornamental erection in their place, in order to make this tower, in some degree, uniform with the others. Such an improvement seems to be all that is now requisite, to render it's appearance truly pleasing.

Between the south transept and the western towers, are seen six tall pinnacles, intended originally for buttresses to the nave—Statues of Christ, the four evangelists, and archbishop St. William, appear in the niches. Between the east end and the south transept, a number of bold columns rise, adorned with a variety of figures, terminating in richly ornamented pinnacles. The windows here are large, and adorned with most beautiful tracery. The superb light in the *small transept* of the choir, and the screen work before the three farthest windows of the upper tier, are highly interesting.

The exterior of the *western* end or principal front, may, however, be said to far excel those



* The copper figure of the bird is now deposited in the cathedral, along with some painted glass, in a small room or closet, near the chapel where morning prayers are performed.

parts already described ; and with it's two towers or steeples, is truly admirable. They are each one hundred and ninety-six feet in height, and diminish as they ascend by several contractions, which have been originally cloistered for imagery ; but the stranger will observe with sorrow, by vacant niches, the depredations of former times. The top of each tower is adorned with eight pinnacles ; and in the south tower is a peal of bells, unequalled by any in the kingdom.

At this front, are three entrances, the centre one of which is by massy folding doors. Over the principal door-way, is the figure of William de Melton ; and on each side of the door, the figures of Vavasour and Percy already described. The expulsion of Adam and Eve from paradise, is portrayed upon the arch, in fine tracery work ; and various other parts of this front are adorned with elegant carving and curious figures ; some of which, we lament to remark, have suffered much from time, and other causes ; but the liberality and taste of the present archbishop, dean, and chapter, have greatly contributed to the renovation of those interesting ornaments, as mentioned before.

The *eastern* end presents a very florid style of architecture, adorned with elegantly formed niches, and airy pinnacles. Over the large window, hereafter described, is seen a statue of archbishop Thoresby, the founder of the choir, mitred and robed, and sitting in his archiepiscopal chair. His left hand formerly supported the figure of a church, and his right hand pointed towards the window; but the statue is altogether much defaced by time. At the foot of the window, are also representations of Christ and his apostles, together with that of a king, supposed to be intended for Edward the third. The centre head of the seventeen, is designed to represent that of our Saviour. The niches of the buttresses, likewise contain the statues of Robert de Vavasour and Robert de Percy.

Near this place may be observed the *Chapter-House*; with it's ponderous buttresses, curious windows, and cupola roof; the workmanship of which, though the time of it's being built is not known, seems to denote it's completion about the reign of the first Edward, when the nave also was erected.

The *north* side of the cathedral is also worthy of attention; particularly the north transept and

nave, which, with the others, contribute to the external beauty of this magnificent structure.

To conclude, it's towers and pinnacles, though admirable by day, appear by moonlight, with such a degree of superior lightness and elegance, as to excite the admiration of every beholder.

INTERIOR OF THE MINSTER.

Entering this stately edifice at the western or principal front, the eye is presented with a grand and imposing spectacle of the vast extent of the building—with it's truly majestic arches, and the other interior beauties of this admired fabric; but this not being the usual entrance for strangers, we shall commence our description at the south front, where the entrance is by a flight of steps, as already described; and near which, the vergers are generally waiting to accompany strangers.

The immediate effect here produced on the mind, is certainly far inferior to the one just noticed; but every person must acknowledge that entering here is not without it's advantages. The opposite transept, the opening of the lantern tower, and the principal body of the minster, with it's beautiful columns and painted windows, bursting unexpectedly upon the eye, are all calculated to induce wonder and delight.

The pavement of this church, formerly consisted chiefly of the grave-stones of bishops and other ecclesiastics, and persons of rank ; many of whom were represented upon them, in their proper habits, by figures of brass. Most of those figures were torn off and carried away, either at the reformation, or in the great rebellion ; and the whole pavement was removed in the year 1736 ; at which time, several curious ancient rings, &c. were discovered, of ruby and sapphire, set in gold—some of them are yet shown in the vestry.

The present pavement, which is laid hollow, to prevent the effects of damp, immediately supplied the place of the former—the expense of it was defrayed out of a subscription of £2500, raised for the purpose, amongst the nobility, clergy, and gentry, of the city and county of York. It is a kind of Mosaic work, drawn by Mr. Kent, under the direction of lord Burlington—the marble being supplied by sawing the old grave-stones ; and the common stone being given for the purpose, by Sir Edward Gascoigne, of Parlington, from his quarry at Huddlestone. In short, the whole is well adapted to the surrounding elegance.

The cross aisle, which is the oldest part of the structure, may be considered as a most superb specimen of the architecture in use, the latter part of the reign of Henry III. The circular arch seen in the upper part, incloses others of a pointed form. Angular shaped pillars support the larger arches, and are encompassed by slender columns, a little detached; the rich leafy capitals of all the columns, uniting to form a foliated wreath round the head of the whole.

The windows are narrow, long, and pointed; and those at the south end are ranged in three tiers. The upper window, formed of two concentric circles of small arches, having already been described, we pass to the second tier; the first window of which contains a representation of archbishop St. William. In the second window, which consists of two lights, are the figures of St. Peter and St. Paul, with their proper insignia beneath. An impious attempt had also been made, according to tradition, in the compartment formed by dividing the stone munion, to represent the great Fountain of intelligence and of all existence. In the adjoining window, likewise appears St. Wilfred, third archbishop of York.

The windows which form the lowermost tier at this end, contain figures representing Abraham, Solomon, Moses, and Peter. They are beautiful specimens of the superior abilities of the late Mr. William Peckitt, an artist of this city; who gave the figure of St. Peter to the minster, together with the arms and crest of the cathedral, which were accordingly put up in 1768. The other three figures he left by will; and they also were introduced into their present situation in 1796.

The memory of this artist deserves some attention in the History of York; and it perhaps cannot be introduced with more propriety, than when describing the productions of his ingenuity. He was born in April, 1731, at Husthwaite, in the north-riding of Yorkshire; and commenced the art of painting, and staining of glass, in the city of York, in 1751. As a *self-taught* artist, no man ever excelled him, either in strength or brilliancy of all the colours. He was a profound chymist, as his admirable discoveries fully evince; and he far surpassed the ancients in that delectable art, by the largeness of the pieces of glass on which he painted. Towards the close of his life, Mr. Peckitt published a small book,

under the title of "The wonderful Love of God to Men, or Heaven opened on Earth;" but, as the writer has not seen the book alluded to, he cannot express himself fully as to its merits*.

In the corner on the left of the south entrance, is a small door, which leads, by 273 winding stone steps, to the top of the lantern steeple. The 107th step lands on an open gallery, about twenty-six yards in length, which connects the main tower with one of the turrets; and from which, there are 166 steps to the summit.

Very few persons visit the cathedral, without enjoying the extensive prospect which this eminence commands. The city below, with its

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* The following brief account of Mr. Peckitt, was given in the York Chronicle of the 15th of October, 1795, at the period of his death. "Yesterday died, that eminent artist Mr. William Peckitt, of this city, in the 65th year of his age; who, by the many ingenious and noble designs which he has executed in the art of painting and staining of glass, in several cathedrals, churches, and noblemen's seats, in this kingdom, has immortalized his name in the list of ingenious artists, who have done honour to this or any other country. He had the felicity of reviving this favourite art, which was almost entirely lost, with the merit of an inventor; for, he had no assistance whatever from any other artist, in the many curious discoveries which he has made. He was a kind and affectionate husband, a most tender parent, and a pious christian."

churches and other public buildings, appears from hence almost too diminutive for particular investigation; whilst the landscape far and wide, the distant towns, lofty hills, and flowing rivers, present to the wondering eye a field for observation, at once so grand and so extensive, that vision itself is soon satiated with the feast, and admiration lost in endless variety.

Proceeding to the north transept, the same style of architecture will be observed, as in the south. The windows are here disposed in two tiers; the lowest of which consists of five noble lights, each about fifty feet high, and five in breadth. Those lights have sometimes been called the *five sisters*, from a tradition that five maiden sisters were at the expense of their erection. The rich stained glass represents embroidery, or needle-work; and there is a small border of plain glass round the edge. The Jewish tabernacles were formerly much admired for the same kind of embroidery, as is represented in those lights; and hence this window has been also termed Jewish. Slender columns are placed in front of these windows, in small clusters, which from their height and lightness, produce a very beautiful effect.

The baptismal font of the cathedral, stands in the western aisle. It does not display any curious workmanship, and merely consists of dark shell marble, singularly variegated.

To take a general survey of the interior, the visiter should place himself under the central tower, or lantern steeple, which he will there observe, is supported on four massy pillars, each of which is formed by clusters of round columns, so placed, as to exhibit an elegant lightness. Hence, he may at once see the stuary screen, the several painted windows, the lengthened aisles and lofty columns; presenting to his view a rich and pleasing variety. The roof of this tower is adorned with tracery, and the beams are curiously knotted, the two figures of St. Peter and St. Paul being represented by the central knot*,


By the following comparative table of the dimensions of the several buildings mentioned in it, which has been selected from most respectable



* The late Mr. Joseph Halfpenny, in his "*Gothic Ornaments of York Cathedral*," published at £6 6s., has beautifully delineated the various figures and remote tracery in this admired and extensive building.

authorities, the reader will be able to judge of the extent of the cathedral of York, in reference to that of others:

COMPARATIVE TABLE.



	York.....	St. Paul's.....	Windsor.....	Canterbury.....	Ely.....	Lincoln.....	Wolverhampton.....	Salisbury.....
Length from E. to W.	ft. 524	ft. 500	ft. 554	ft. 514	ft. 517	ft. 498	ft. 489	ft. 452
— west door to the choir	264	306	247	214	—	—	130	246
— of the choir	162	165	138	—	101	—	152	140
— of the space behind the altar ...	69	—	93	—	—	—	—	—
— of the cross aisles from N. to S.	222	248	208	low. 124 up. 154	178	227	180	210
Breadth of the body and side aisles	109	107	86	74	73	83	96	76
Height of the vaulting of the nave.....	96	88	78	88	—	83	101	84
Height of the two western towers, or steeples	196	221	n. w. 133 s. w. 130	n. w. 100 s. w. 130	270	270	—	—
— of the lantern tower	235	—	—	235	113	268	—	400

The churches in Roman Catholic countries on the continent, at this very period, have many altars in each of them; and it appears by a catalogue of the chantries within this cathedral, as they were certified in the court of augmentations, anno 37th of Henry the eighth, that there then were forty altars subsisting within it's walls. Mr. Torre, however, mentions more than sixty; "*besides forty-six obits*"—perhaps some of their stipends had failed, prior to the dissolution. Most of those chantries were placed in chapels in various parts of the church, several of which ranged from the door of the chapter-house to the north aisle of the choir, and from the south aisle to the clock,

The body of the nave from the western entrance to the lantern tower, comprises eight equal arches; the capitals of the pillars of which, present great variety of design, being all adorned with different foliage.

The principal part of the weight of the two western towers, is supported by the columns on which the two first arches rest. The same columns also support an arch that entirely crosses the whole middle aisle, and which has been termed the highest, lightest, and most extensive arch in the world. On different parts of the side arches, appear the arms of many principal benefactors to the building.

Over the arches in each side of the nave, runs a gallery, the several openings of which were, formerly, occupied by stone images of the tutelar saints and patrons of the several European nations, most of which have long been destroyed, though the figure of St. George and the Dragon, with some few more, yet remain. Above this curious gallery, is a range of small but elegantly-painted windows, adorned with various imagery and armorial bearings. The windows in the side aisles are in excellent preservation; and over the entrances into those aisles, are curious figures in

basso relievo, representing the rural sports of the ancients.

The large window at the western front must not pass unnoticed. It certainly is inferior to the eastern window as to size, but it has been correctly termed of unrivalled richness. The tracery is ramified and beautiful. Figures of the first eight archbishops are delineated in the lowermost compartments, as large as life; and above them are represented eight saints of the church. The roof of the whole of the nave is of wood. As it underwent a complete repair in 1795, by order of the dean and chapter, it is consequently in excellent condition.

THE SERVICE CHOIR.

This part of the church, is separated from the principal body of the minster by a thick wall, the front of which is adorned with very curious and florid sculpture, in stone, consisting of a series of our kings, from the conquest to Henry the sixth; arranged in the following order:—William I.—William II.—Henry I.—Stephen—Henry II.—Richard I. and John, on the north of the entrance; also Henry III.—Edward I.—Edward II.—Edward III.—Richard II.—Henry IV.

—Henry V. and Henry VI. on the south of the door.

The statue of Henry the sixth, originally placed in this screen, is recorded to have become, after his death, an object of adoration to such of the lower orders of society, as pitied the misfortunes of this pious but weak monarch. It therefore was ordered to be removed, in compliment to his successor, Edward the fourth; and the niche accordingly remained empty, till James the first arrived at York, in the year 1602; on which occasion, the dean and chapter ordered a statue of this king to be placed in the vacancy. The latter, however, was removed to Ripon Minster, a few years ago, and a statue of Henry the sixth, most admirably executed by Mr. Michael Taylor, a sculptor of considerable merit, in York, was substituted; by which, and other judicious repairs the screen has lately undergone, it has assumed much of it's original character and appearance.

The history of this screen is little known; but, we may clearly determine from these circumstances, that it's origin was prior to the reign of Edward the fourth. The placing of it in the minster at so early a period, is however, very un-

certain, and indeed very unlikely. An antiquary of considerable research, has made the following remark on the subject, with which the writer of this account cordially agrees: "I am inclined to believe the tradition, that the screen belonged to St. Mary's Abbey, at the Manor; that king James the first presented it to this church; and, that in complaisance to him, the dean and chapter placed his statue in the cell, which before had been occupied by that of king Henry the sixth. What confirms me in this opinion is, that had it been made originally for the place where it now stands, it would have been in the centre; whereas it is several inches more to the north; neither does the screen appear to join to the pillars."

The door in this screen formerly was of wood, till Mrs. Mary Wandesford gave the present handsome iron gates. For the sake of uniformity, Dean Finch also gave the other iron gates, leading into the side aisles.

The organ is now placed over the entrance into the choir; and indeed this was its original situation; but king Charles the first, who had contributed one thousand pounds for the erection of an organ, and for other purposes, ordered it to be placed opposite to the bishop's throne, offering

as a reason for the alteration, that when over the entrance to the choir, it obstructed the prospect of the fine east window, from the body of the nave. In 1688, archbishop Lamplugh and the earl of Strafford contributed towards the expense of the change, and finally succeeded in obtaining it's removal back to the original situation, which it now occupies. The organ has been lately enlarged, and has undergone a thorough repair ; by which, it's sweet tone has been rendered still more pleasing, as the solemn peals swell and retire among the lofty arches and lengthened aisles of this noble fabric.

The ancient wood-work of the choir yet remains. It is carved with pinnacles of different heights, and pedestals whereon, probably, once were images of wood, for greater decoration. Behind those, are galleries and regular pews ; and, under the front of them, are the stalls for the canons, &c., beginning with the dean's stall on the right, and the precentor's on the left ; each stall being particularized by a written label over it. The *cathedra*, or throne for the archbishop, is situated at the end of the prebendal stalls, on the south side ; and the pulpit is placed opposite. On the left of the throne, the right

hon. the lord mayor and the aldermen of York have their seat ; and the judges of the assize sit facing them, near the pulpit.

There is a small pillar of brass near the middle of the area, supported by four lions. On the top of the pillar is an eagle of the same metal, with wings expanded, standing upon a globe ; and supporting on it's back and wings, the service bible for the lessons. On the eagle, is the following inscription :

THO : CRACROFT, S. T. P.
 AQUILAM HANC EX ÆRE CONFLATAM
 IN USUM ET ORNATUM
 CATHEDRALIS TEMPLI EBOR ;
 DIVO PETRO SACRI
 CONTULIT
 MDCLXXXVI.

About the centre, a reading desk is also fixed ; with the front of it towards the altar table. The roof of this part of the church, displays more elegant tracery than even that of the nave ; and whilst surveying it, the attention of the stranger will naturally be directed to a beautiful festoon work, attached to the capitals of the pillars.

The ascent from the nave, through the choir to the high altar, is by a flight of steps, comprising fifteen in number. In 1726, a large wooden screen, which almost obscured the view of the east window from the service choir, was removed. This old wooden screen was painted and richly gilt; and at each end of it, was a door which opened into an apartment behind the altar, where the archbishops formerly enrobed themselves, preparatory to their organization; and from which they proceeded to the high altar, to be invested with the pall. A music gallery, such as is customary in all Roman Catholic churches, for the celebration of high mass, had been erected on the top of this screen.

When the gallery, *wooden* screen, &c., were completely removed, which was done by order of dean Finch; a *stone* screen, of excellent Gothic architecture, that had previously been hid, presented itself to the sight. This screen, which yet remains, is about forty-nine feet long by twenty-eight high, consisting of eight arches, beautifully ornamented with tracery. Three parts of this handsome screen were, however, covered with tapestry; the middle piece of which represented Moses in the cradle of bulrushes, taken up by

Pharaoh's daughter; on one side of which, this character appeared as striking the rock in the wilderness; and on the other, was a similar devise. This tapestry was, however, afterwards taken down, by order of dean Fountain; and in lieu of it, the whole screen was glazed with plate glass, secured by bars of copper. By these improvements, there is now, in the choir, a full prospect of the east window, which produces a very fine effect.

The plate belonging to this cathedral is not very considerable, having been reduced by the various changes depicted in its eventful history. Charles the first found it very deficient, and presented it with a quantity of communion plate; archbishop Sterne contributed 218 ounces—Archibald Dolben gave 195 ounces; and lord Beaumont gave two silver candlesticks, weighing 53 ounces. Those, though not the whole, constitute the principal part of the plate which this church now possesses.

Under the altar is a vault, commonly called "*The Crypt*;" with entrances from the north and south aisles of the choir, by two iron-grated doors. It is an equilateral square of fourteen

yards; and is divided into four aisles, by nine short pillars of stone, with curious, rudely carved Saxon capitals to support the arched roof. On the west side of this vault, close to the wall, is a deep well, enclosed with stone, to the height of a yard above the floor; and not far from it, nearer to the northern entrance, is an altar of stone, raised nearly a yard high; which is about two yards in length, and three-quarters of a yard broad. The top stone is hollow; and, in the cavity, is carved the figure of a man couching, with a rabbit, or some such animal, between his knees.

It has been imagined, that this vault is part of the old crypt, built by archbishop Roger; but, from the circumstance of the architecture being of a much more ancient style, than in any other part of the cathedral, it is very evident that whilst exploring it, we survey part of the old minster, built by king Edwin, and which had been left standing when archbishop Thoresby built the new choir over it. In this vault, were formerly several chantries; one of which, Torre informs us was called the chantry of the altar of St. Mary, in *cryptis*, and that her mass was daily celebrated there with note and organ.

PRESENT RELIGIOUS SERVICE.

The first service performed in the minster, is

MORNING PRAYERS, *daily* at *seven*, in a small vestry, neatly fitted up with pews, &c., on the right of the south entrance ; in which also the ecclesiastical courts are held.

TEN O'CLOCK. Cathedral service daily ; performed in the choir. An anthem is always sung, unless there be a sermon or litany. On Sundays and Holy-Days, a sermon is preached. The communion is administered every Sunday.

AFTERNOON. Cathedral service on Sundays at *four*, in which an anthem is performed throughout the year.

EVENING PRAYERS, on every week-day, at *three* in winter, and *four* in summer, in which an anthem is performed.

N. B. On Wednesdays and Fridays in *Advent* and *Lent*, and during the six days before *Easter*, there is no choral service or singing, either *morning* or *evening*.

For the convenience of Sunday evening service, the choir is illuminated from St. Luke's-Day till Candlemas, by seven large branches, besides a small wax candle to every two stalls. Three of the branches were the gift of Sir Arthur Ingram, in the year 1638, as appears from an inscription upon each. The sum of *four pounds* per annum was also settled on the church, by the

same gentleman, to supply it with candles. Ralph Lowther, of Ackworth, esquire, presented to the minster two of the other branches; but who were the donors of the remaining two, is unknown. Two large tapers also are sometimes placed at the altar; and, on particular holy days, the four principal dignitaries, have each a branch of seven candles placed before them, at their respective stalls.

WINDOWS IN THE CHOIR.

The windows here are richly variegated, and adorned with representations of kings, escutcheons, arms, &c. These of the small transepts are remarkably high and elegant, and are divided into one hundred and eight compartments, each of which is illustrative of some passage from the Holy Scriptures.

The "*East Window*," however, surpasses all that pen can describe, or pencil portray; if we consider it in the whole, as to extent, ingenuity of design, or richness of execution. It is nearly the full breadth and height of the middle choir, and the upper part of it exhibits a piece of admirable tracery; below which, are one hundred and seventeen compartments, displaying such a va-

riety of sacred representations, as perhaps may safely be termed an illustration of nearly the whole of Scripture history. The erection of this window commenced in 1405, by order of the dean and chapter, who contracted for it with John Thornton, a glazier of Coventry. For his own work, he was to be paid the *weekly* sum of *four shillings*; and the whole was to be completed in less than three years. It's height is seventy-five feet, and the breadth thirty feet.

To the south of this magnificent window, is one containing much beautiful ancient painted glass, presented to the dean and chapter, by the earl of Carlisle, in the year 1804. By surveying this window through Bowet's elegant Gothic shrine, the effect is much improved. The figures are as large as life, and represent the annunciation, or the meeting of Mary the mother of Jesus, and Elizabeth the mother of John the Baptist. It is supposed to have been copied from a design of Sebastian del Piombo, the great favorite of pope Clement the eighth; and was brought from the church of St. Nicholas, in Rouen. The armorial bearings of the family of the noble donor, fill up the compartments, and render the whole truly interesting.

MONUMENTS, TOMBS,

Inscriptions, &c.

The observer must now turn his attention from those splendid productions of human ingenuity, to wander amongst the tombs; and, to contemplate the frailty of our nature amidst the mouldering monuments of human greatness.—Here, the serious mind may indulge in all the reveries of reflection—here, the gay and thoughtless must, for a time, possess a lucid interval of sober reason; and here, the candidate for this world's greatness and empty honors, may pause, on recollecting the following excellent, though humbling exclamation of the celebrated Doctor Young:

“What! though we wade in wealth, or soar in fame!

“Earth's highest station ends in: ‘*Here he lies!*’

“And ‘*Dust to Dust!*’ concludes her noblest song!”

The principal tombs and monuments in the cathedral, are placed in the vicinity of the elegant windows last described; occupying the aisles on each side of the choir, and an open space called the lady's chapel, behind the altar screen. But there are some tombs and inscriptions in other

parts also of the cathedral, which must be noticed under this general head.

The first monument that will attract the stranger's attention, on his entrance at the south front, is situated on the right hand, in what is termed the east aisle. It is the tomb of

ARCHBISHOP WALTER DE GREY,

Who founded this part of the cathedral ; and it is rendered remarkable by a beautiful canopy, adorned with heads and pinnacles, and supported by eight slender pillars, under which is a full-length effigy of this prelate, with his crozier, &c. This tomb is surrounded by cast iron railing, placed there at the expense of the late archbishop, Dr. Markham. The ornaments about it were all taken either from the tomb itself, or from those parts of the building erected by the venerable subject of the monument.

II. ARCHBISHOP GODFREY DE LUDHAM, *alias* KIMETON.

Not far distant, is also placed a monumental table, supposed to have been erected to the memory of this prelate. It is ornamented with a flowery cross, and supported by twelve short pillars.. He died in 1264.

III. ARCHBISHOP GRENFIELD.

In the eastern aisle of the north transept, is this tomb, or shrine, highly enriched with tracery and pinnacles, and supported by buttresses ; the whole presenting to the

minute observer, a fine specimen of the style which prevailed in the reign of Henry the sixth.

IV. ELIZABETH EYMES.

On a pillar in the south cross aisle of the nave, is a copper-plate, with the effigy of a woman, having in her hand a book. Below are these sentences :

“ I have chosen the way of thy truth ; and thy judgments have I laid before me. Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.”

Underneath this is the following inscription :

“ Here lyeth the body of Elizabeth Eymes, widow, late wife of Thomas Eymes, esquire, deceased ; one of the gentlewomen of Queen Elizabeth her Privy Chamber, and daughter of Sir Edward Nevill, knight, one of the Privy Chamber to king Henry the eighth ; who departed this life to the mercy of God, the third day of February, anno dom. 1583.”

V. JAMES COTREL, ESQ.

Not far from the last tomb, on a brass plate, is a latin inscription to his memory. He came from Dublin, resided in York, and died 27th of August, 1595.

VI. JOHN HAXBY.

In the western aisle is a flat tomb of black marble, supported by an iron trellis, about two feet and a half high, to the memory of John Haxby, treasurer of this church ; who died the 21st of January, 1424. Within the trellis, is laid a full-length effigy ; and payments of money, &c., are, even to this day, sometimes made upon the tomb of this treasurer.

VII. ARCHBISHOP ROGER.

In the north aisle of the nave, is a Gothic tomb, supposed to inclose the remains of this prelate, who lived in the reign of Henry the first. The pedestal is about two feet from the floor. It is adorned with mouldings and tracery; and over it is an arch, ornamented with beautiful foliage, &c.

These are all the monuments, or inscriptions, now remaining in the body of the church, though there were formerly many more; but as they have been removed in the lapse of time, they have ceased to interest the inquirer, or to deserve particular enumeration. To the monuments in the aisles of the choir, we therefore now turn; and, as a full description of the whole would be uninteresting to some readers, the author will only dwell upon each, according to its importance and general interest.

It has already been remarked, that there are outer iron gates to those aisles; and it may here be requisite to observe there are also inner gates, to preserve the monuments from the injury they might sustain, by the ignorant intrusion of the thoughtless, or from the officiousness of the mischievous.

VIII. JANE HODSON.

Entering the south aisle, near the second gates, on the right hand, against the wall, is a small compartment, with two Corinthian columns, and a plain entablature, with a pediment, upon which are two weeping boys, coats of arms, and an urn; with a long latin inscription, to the memory of Jane Hodson, wife of Phineas Hodson, professor of Theology, and Chancellor of this church, who died in September, 1696, aged 38 years and 8 months.

IX. SIR WILLIAM GEE.

The next is a very antique architectural monument, to the memory of Sir William Gee, of Bishop-Burton, in this county, knight, one of the Privy Council, and Secretary to James the first. It was erected by Mary Gee, his widow. Upon the pedestal part are six small figures, in a supplicating posture, and above, are three larger figures kneeling in three arches, decorated with bells, books, coats of arms, cherubim, &c. It is inscribed:

“ In Humanis magnus, in Divinis multus.”

On one side is a latin inscription, which has thus been translated:

“ What need of tears, or monumental praise,
 Blest Shade! Thy actions or thy name to raise:
 To souls like thine, Death with a smile appears,
 And his grim form an angel's semblance wears.
 What joy were ours, had time but spar'd his rage,
 O bright example for the future age!
 Recorded virtue God-like warmth inspires,
 The pious children emulate their sires.
 Behold this stone! With heavenly ardor mov'd,
 Act like it's owner; and like him be lov'd.”

On the other side, are six more lines, translated thus:

" Ah, why this Tomb ? since from my sorrowing heart,
His dear Remembrance never shall depart :
Yet here, ev'n here, his actions let me tell ;
And on his praise with mournful fondness dwell.
I ask no more ; then shall this marble prove,
Sacred at once to Virtue and to Love !"

Underneath,

" Anno Dom. 1611.

In eternam primævæ labis memoriæ,

" Stay, gentle passenger, and read
A sentence sent thee from the dead.
If wisdom, wealth, honour, or honesty,
Chastity, zeal, faith, hope, or charity—
If universal learning, language, law,
Pure piety, religion's reverend awe ;
Firm friends, fair issue—if a virtuous wife,
A quiet conscience, a contented life,
The Clergy's prayers, or the poor man's tears,
Could have lent length to man's determined year,
Sure as the fate which for our fault we fear,
Proud Death had ne'er advanced his trophy here ;
In it behold thy doom—thy tomb provide,
Sir William Gee had all these pleas, yet died."

After this, follows a long inscription, detailing the virtues of the deceased, his name, &c., as mentioned at the commencement of this description.

X. ENSIGN HENRY WITHAM.

Adjoining the last, is a small white tablet, on a black marble ground, against the wall, ornamented with an urn, drapery, &c.; containing a short inscription, to the

memory of Ensign Henry Witham, an officer in the Craven Legion, who was accidentally drowned in the river Ouse, whilst stationed on duty at York, in 1809. He was but 26 years of age, and his brother officers erected this tablet, as a mark of respect, to his memory.

XI. ARCHBISHOP HUTTON'S

Tomb, near the preceding, is an antique architectural monument, with a whole-length figure extended upon the pedestal part, and three figures kneeling below, in three arches. This tomb is decorated on the top with coats of arms, &c. The inscription states that he died Jan. 16, 1605, and that his wife died on the 5th of May, 1582.

XII. NICHOLAS WANTON'S

Monument succeeds. It is a very antique piece of architecture; with a figure, in the attitude of prayer. The inscription represents him to have been the youngest son and heir of Thomas Wanton, of London, esquire, and to have died March 2, 1617. His brother William is also interred near the same place. A latin poetic effusion upon the tomb, has thus been read in English:

"Whoever sees me and my brother,
Lying here beside each other,
Let him think that nought can save
His friends or him, from the grave."

XIII. ARCHBISHOP LAMPLUGH'S

Monument is a modern one, inclosed within iron palisades. On the pedestal, is a mitred figure erect, and revealed pilasters, a cove cornice, with two weeping boys thereon,

and his coat of arms; a semi-circular pediment, with an urn at the top, &c. Below is a latin inscription, expressive of his dignities, virtues, and connexions. He died May 5, 1691, in the 76th year of his age.

XIV. THOMAS LAMPLUGH, M. A.

Nearly adjoining, is a white marble monument, to the memory of Thomas Lamplugh, M. A., rector of Bolton-Piercy, and canon-residentiary of this church. He was grandson of the archbishop, and died July 21, 1747, aged 60.

XV. ARCHBISHOP DOLBEN.

Against the opposite wall is a marble monument, protected with iron palisades. A mitred figure is reclining upon the pedestal; above which is a groupe of cherubs, a low cornice, coat of arms, and an urn, supported by pilasters with festoons. The inscription below states, that he died of the small-pox, in 1686, in the 62nd year of his age.

XVI. LADY MARY HORE.

Returning to the south wall, the stranger will observe a beautiful marble slab, on which is represented a Sarcophagus, with urns above, and an inscription below, to the memory of the Right Honorable Lady Mary Hore, who died at York, on her way to Scarborough, in the year 1798, aged 22.

XVII. REV. GEORGE WILLIAM ANDERSON'S,

Is a compartment, consisting of an oval inscription table, with a serpent twisted round—an emblem of eternity; above which are festoons of drapery. The whole is

placed on a ground of dove marble, with an inscription to his memory. He died April 16th, 1785, in the 25th year of his age.

XVIII. MR. FRANCIS CROFT'S,

Is a large table of variegated marble, against the wall; on which is represented a Sarcophagus in white marble; and above it, the family arms, with an inscription to the memory of Mr. Francis Croft, of this city, who died in 1807, aged 31.

XIX. DR. BURGH.

An appropriate and classically elegant monument of beautiful white marble, by Westmacot, is erected to the memory of this celebrated character. The monument exhibits a full-length emblematical figure of RELIGION, sustaining with her right hand, a cross, and having her left placed on a book, entitled, "*On the Holy Trinity*.*" Adjoining is an altar, with the name of "BURGH," on the upper part, and in the centre, a glory, diverging from the letters J. H. S. On the base or pedestal of the monument is inscribed:

"GUGLIELMO BURGH, ARMO NAT. HIBERN. 1741,

MORT. EBOR. 1808, ÆT. 67."

Below this is the following poetic inscription, written by J. B. S.

Morrilt, Esq. of Rokeby.

"Lost in a jarring world's tumultuous cries,
Unmark'd, around us sink the good and wise!
Here BURGH is laid—a venerable name,
To Virtue sacred—not unknown to Fame:

—«««»—

* Alluding to a Treatise, written by him, on that subject.

Let those he lov'd—Let those who lov'd him, tell
 How dear he liv'd, and how lamented fell :
 Tell of the void his social spirit left ;
 Of comforts long enjoy'd, for ever rest—
 Of wit that gilded many a sprightlier hour—
 Of kindness, when the scene of joy was o'er.—
 Of Truth's ethereal beam, by learning given,
 To guide his virtues to their native heaven :
 Nor shall their sorrowing voice be heard unmov'd,
 While gratitude is left, or goodness lov'd ;
 But list'ning crowds this honor'd tomb attend,
 And children's children, bless their father's friend !”

XX. THE EARL OF STRAFFORD'S

Monument is of elegant white marble, and of the Corinthian order ; with beautiful fluted columns of rich variegated marble. Between the columns, in a double niche, are seen the whole-length figures of William Wentworth, earl of Strafford, and his lady, with an urn between them, and the coronet laid at their feet. Over the niches, in a circular pediment, are the Wentworths' arms—on each column stands a handsome vase or urn, and upon the pedestal, beside each, stands a weeping cherub. Beneath is a long inscription, descriptive of his illustrious family connexions. The earl was born the 8th of June, 1626, and died the 16th of October, 1695. On a flag on the floor, near this monument, is inscribed :

“ The earl of Strafford's vault, appointed to be made by William, earl of Strafford, Anno Dom. 1687.”

And on this flag, are the arms of the family, in brass.

XXI. EDWARD TIPPING'S, (ESQ.)

Is a monument with various devices—an urn with loose drapery over it, and a dove descending ; the whole being

surrounded with a wreath of flowers. This monument is stated, by the inscription, to have been erected in memory of Edward Tipping, esquire, of Bellurgan Park, in the county of Lowth, Ireland; who died in 1798, aged 35 years.

XXII. ARCHBISHOP PIERCE'S

Monument is a square compartment, with two columns, and an entablature of ancient architecture, decorated with coats of arms, &c., upon which is a long inscription, stating that he died September 28, 1594, in the 71st year of his age; and that John Bennet, D. L., whom he made his heir, erected this monument.

XXIII. HON. THOMAS WENTWORTH.

Adjoining, is a very elegant monument, to the memory of the Hon. Thomas Watson Wentworth, third son of Edward lord Rockingham. It was erected by his son, Thomas lord Malton; and stands upon a plain pedestal of marble, on which is another pedestal, whereon stands a full-length figure of himself, in a Roman habit, leaning with his left arm upon an urn. A fine female figure, with beautiful drapery, is represented sitting on the other side, reclining her head upon her right hand, with her elbow upon another pedestal. The back ground of the monument forming a pyramid, with the coat of arms upon the point. This beautiful piece of sculpture is protected by iron palisades; and bears an inscription to his memory, stating that he died October 6, 1723, aged 58: Also to the memory of Thomas Watson Wentworth, marquiss of

Rockingham, who died at Wentworth-House, Dec. 14, 1750, and was interred in the earl of Strafford's vault : Likewise to the memory of Charles Watson Wentworth, the last marquis of Rockingham, who died at Wimbleton, in Surry, July 1, 1782, aged 52, and was buried in the same vault, with unprecedented honors, as already described.

XXIV. ARCHBISHOP BOWET.

This admirable sepulchral shrine, is a rich and elegant specimen of the florid style of Anglo-Norman architecture : It is nearly thirty feet high, and is decorated with light and lofty pinnacles, of very superior execution, inclosing three figures, the centre one of which is said to be that of Henry the fifth. This prelate died in the year 1423 ; but the monument does not contain any inscription except his name.

XXV. MRS. ANNE BENNET.

Against one of the opposite pillars, is this monument. It is an antique compartment, representing a canopy, with a half length female figure beneath ; and decorated with cherubs, &c. The inscription represents her as the daughter of Christopher Wekes, esquire, of Salisbury, in Wiltshire, and wife of John Bennet, She died February 9th, 1601.

XXVI. DEAN FINCH, &c.

Fixed to a pillar nearer the shrine, is a white veined marble monument, in three compartments, resting on a pedestal ; and comprising the busts of dean Finch, who

died at Bath, Sept. 8, 1728, and of the Hon. and Rev. Edward Finch, who died in 1737; with an urn in the centre. Above is a scroll pediment, and the family arms, with an inscription, to the memory of the Hon. Mary Finch, wife of Edward, who died Feb. 26, 1741.

XXVII. ARCHBISHOP SHARP.

Next to the last shrine, is a stately marble monument, in memory of this prelate, of the Corinthian order, with revealed pilasters, and iron palisades in front. Upon the pedestal, a mitred figure lies in a reclining posture, being about half raised, on the right arm, which rests on a cushion, with a book in the left. The whole is decorated with figures of winged cherubs, urns, &c. Below is a very long inscription, expressive of his virtues, &c., and stating that he died at Bath, Feb. 2, 1713, in the 69th year of his age.

XXVIII. ARCHBISHOP SEWAL.

Near the preceding, is a table monument of grey marble, supported by eleven small columns. It displays neither date nor name, but is supposed to be the monument of archbishop Sewal.

XXIX. ARCHBISHOP MATTHEW'S

Monument is of very ancient architecture. The lower part of it is supported by four columns, with three small figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity, between them. Upon the cornice lies a figure at full length; and above that are two more columns, supporting a kind of pedi-

ment, with hour-glasses, coats of arms, &c. By the inscription below, we are informed that he died March 29, 1628, in the 82nd year of his age.

XXX. FRANCES MATTHEW.

A monument has also been erected adjoining, to the memory of Frances Matthew, wife of the above prelate. In a niche between two columns is the figure of a female, in the attitude of prayer; two other figures also are standing near the columns, in a devout posture. The whole is decorated with representations of angels, coats of arms, &c. She died May 8th, 1629, aged 78.

XXXI. ARCHBISHOP FREWEN'S

Monument is twenty feet high, and ten broad. It represents a figure at full length; the whole being decorated with small figures, books, coats of arms, &c. He died March 28, 1664, in his 76th year. A neighbouring inscription also mentions, that near this monument lies Judith the wife of Thomas Frewen, esquire, who died Sept. 29, 1666, in the 27th year of her age.

XXXII. ARCHBISHOP SCROPE,

(Commonly called Scroope.) This monument is Gothic, about three feet high and eight feet long; and in the front, is Gothic tracery, with shields and mouldings, but no inscription.

XXXIII. ARCHBISHOP ROTHERHAM'S

Is a solid Gothic table tomb, decorated with mouldings, tracery, &c.; but has no inscription.

XXXIV. COUNTESS OF CUMBERLAND.

A table tomb, supported by four swelling vases, to the memory of the Right Hon. Frances Cecil, countess of Cumberland, daughter of the earl of Salisbury, and wife of the Right Hon. Henry lord Clifford, Bromfleet, Vetrepon and Vessey, earl of Cumberland, and lord lieutenant of the county of York. She died at York, Feb. 4th, 1643, aged forty-nine years and eleven months.

XXXV. MRS. MARY THORNHILL'S,

Is a beautiful tablet against the wall, the upper part of which is yellow and red veined marble. On the top is an urn, with other ornaments in white marble; and on the right side of an inscription, is a branch of laurel interwoven with cyprus, whilst on the left, are cyprus and palm branches. She died at Fixby, in this county, Jan. 6, 1727, aged 70. This monument also is sacred to the memory of her two daughters.

XXXVI. ARCHBISHOP STERNE'S,

Is a very fine marble monument, in the modern style, erected within an iron palisade. Upon the pedestal, is a mitred figure reclined, with his head upon his hand; and upon the two external angles of the pedestal, are two winged cherubs, weeping. Over the figure is an architrave frieze and cornice, adorned with drapery and festoons, and surmounted by a semicircular cornice and his coat of arms. The monument, bears an inscription to the me-

whole height of the monument is sixteen feet. On the front of the pedestal is the following inscription :

TO THE MEMORY OF SIR GEORGE SAVILE, BART.
 WHO, IN FIVE SUCCESSIVE PARLIAMENTS,
 REPRESENTED THE COUNTY OF YORK,
 THE PUBLIC LOVE AND ESTEEM OF HIS FELLOW-CITIZENS
 HAVE DECREED THIS MONUMENT.
 IN PRIVATE LIFE HE WAS BENEVOLENT AND SINCERE—
 HIS CHARITIES WERE EXTENSIVE AND SECRET ;
 HIS WHOLE HEART WAS FORMED ON PRINCIPLES
 OF GENEROSITY, MILDNESS, JUSTICE, AND UNIVERSAL CANDOUR :
 IN PUBLIC, THE PATRON OF EVERY NATIONAL IMPROVEMENT ;
 IN THE SENATE, INCORRUPT ;
 IN HIS COMMERCE WITH THE WORLD, DISINTERESTED :
 BY GENIUS, ENLIGHTENED IN THE MEANS OF DOING GOOD,
 HE WAS UNWEARIED IN DOING IT.
 HIS LIFE WAS AN ORNAMENT AND A BLESSING TO THE AGE
 IN WHICH HE LIVED :
 AND AFTER DEATH, HIS MEMORY WILL CONTINUE TO BE BENEFICIAL
 TO MANKIND,
 BY HOLDING FORTH AN EXAMPLE OF PURE AND UNAFFECTED VIRTUE,
 MOST WORTHY OF IMITATION TO THE LATEST POSTERITY !
 HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE JANUARY 9th, 1784,
 IN THE 58th YEAR OF HIS AGE,
 BELOVED AND LAMENTED.

XLIV. JOHN RICHARDSON'S, M. A.

Is a white marble monument, against the wall. He was one of the canons residentiary of this church, and died October 28, 1735, in the 60th year of his age.

XLV. DR. DEALTRY'S

Monument, (an eminent Physician in York.) The design, which is elegantly executed in statuary marble, by Messrs.

Fisher of this city, is a figure of Health, in alto relievo, with her ancient *insignia*, bending over an urn, and dropping a chaplet. Underneath, are the two following inscriptions :

TO THE MEMORY OF JOHN DEALTRY, M.D.
WHOSE SKILL IN HIS PROFESSION WAS ONLY EQUALLED
BY THE HUMANITY OF HIS PRACTICE,
ELIZABETH, HIS AFFLICTED WIDOW, DEDICATES THIS MONUMENT.
HE DIED MARCH THE 25th, 1773,
AGED 66.

Here, o'er the tomb, where Dealtry's ashes sleep,
See Health, in emblematic anguish weep !
She drops her faded wreath : " No more," she cries,
" Let languid mortals, with beseeching eyes,
" Implore my feeble aid : It fail'd to save
" My own, and Nature's guardian from the grave !"

XLVI. SIR THOMAS DAVENPORT'S,

Is a pyramidical monument, highly finished. At the bottom are introduced the arms, on a shield, with a branch of cypress on one side, and a laurel branch on the other, tied with a knot of ribbon. In the centre is the inscription ; and on each side, a pilaster, decorated with dropping festoons of oak and myrtle, above which is placed an elegant urn. The pedestal is of dove marble, on which is an ivy branch ; and the ground is of beautifully variegated marble, with an inscription, stating that Sir Thomas Davenport, knight, was one of his majesty's serjeants at law, and member of parliament for Newton, in Lancashire ; that he opened the commission of assize in York,

on Saturday, March 11th, 1786, attended the minster the following day, was seized with a fever, and died on the 25th, aged 52.

XLVII. ADMIRAL MEDLEY'S

Monument is of white veined marble, with a fine bust, arms, and curious devices of naval implements, ships, &c.; below, are two weeping cherubs, and underneath them, the inscription. He was born at Grimston Garth, became Vice-Admiral of the Blue, and Commander in Chief in the Mediterranean, and died at Savona, August 5, 1747.

XLVIII. WILLIAM PEARSON, L. L. D.

He was Chancellor of the Diocese of York, &c. To his memory is erected a neat plain monument, against the wall, with his coat of arms on the top, and an inscription below. He died Feb. 6th, 1715, in the 53d year of his age.

XLIX. MRS. RAYNES,

A square compartment, decorated with two small columns, a pediment, &c., presents an inscription to the memory of Mrs. Raynes, wife of Thomas Raynes, esquire, and daughter of Robert Conyers, esquire, of Boulby, in the county of York. She died of a cancer, December 20th, 1689.

L. EARL OF CARLISLE.

This is a modern marble monument, against the wall; composed of two pilasters, a circular pediment, &c., adorned with cherubs, coats of arms, a bust of the earl, and several urns. On one column, is an inscription to

the memory of Charles Howard, earl of Carlisle, Viscount Morpeth, Baron Dacres of Gilsland, Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland and Westmoreland, Vice-Admiral of the coasts of Northumberland, Cumberland, Bishopric of Durham, town and county of Newcastle, and maritime parts adjacent; Governor of Jamaica, Privy Counsellor to king Charles the second, and his Ambassador Extraordinary to the Czar of Muscovy and the kings of Sweden and Denmark, in 1663, and 1664: He died Feb. 24, 1684, aged 56. Another column of the same monument is inscribed by the Right Hon. Lady Mary Fenwicke, eldest daughter of the earl, to the memory of Sir John Fenwicke, bart., of Fenwicke-Castle, in Northumberland, her deceased husband, who was interred Jan. 28, 1696, in the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London; aged 52. In the centre of the monument, is an inscription to the memory of the said Lady Mary Fenwicke, who died October 27, 1708, in the 50th year of her age. Near this monument is the ancient family vault, and over the entrance into it is a flag, with those words: "Here lyeth the body of Charles Howard, earl of Carlisle, who died the 24th of February, 1684, *Ætat. suæ* 56."

LI. ANNABELLA WICKHAM.

A square compartment, decorated by coats of arms, &c., contains an inscription to the memory of Annabella Wickham, wife of Henry Wickham, D. D., and arch-deacon of York. She died July 25, 1625.

LII. MR. WILLIAM INGRAM'S,

Is a small antique monument, decorated with figures, a coat of arms, &c. He was knighted by king James, was Doctor of Laws, a Master in Chancery, and sole Deputy Commissary of the prerogative court of York. He died July 24, 1625. The monument bears an inscription, and the following curious epitaph :

" Here the judge of testators lies dead in Christ, the Judge and Testator of the New Covenant. He has given these Legacies : Himself to the Lord, his joys to Heaven, his deeds to the World, his gains to his Friends, his body to the Earth. The hearts of his friends contain a better picture of his character ; but, would you know his whole conduct, you must follow him to heaven."

LIII. DR. SWINBURNE'S

Monument is partly Gothic, and partly modern, decorated with coats of arms, various small figures and angels, and a large figure in a supplicating posture, under an arch. There is a short inscription, but no date.

LIV. P. REEVES, ESQ,

A variegated marble monument against the wall, with a white oval centre, is inscribed to him in these words :

" To the memory of P. Reeves, of Arborfield, in the county of Berks, esquire, captain in the first or royal regiment.—He fell in battle, at Toulon, 30th November, 1793, in the 29th year of his age—His brother, George Dawson, inscribes this."

On each side are represented, the gorget, sash, and sword—Above, is a wreath of laurel ; and below, are the family arms.

LV. REV. RICHARD THOMPSON.

Near the preceding, is a beautiful monument of white marble, on a dove marble ground ; to the memory of the Rev. Richard Thompson, prebendary of York, and rector

of Kirk-Deighton.—Also, to the memory of Anne, his wife—the latter died in 1791, the former in 1795. It is ornamented with emblematic devices, and supported by two flat pillars, one of which is crowned with an urn, the other with a representation of books piled up. The family arms are seen in the centre, and a larger urn is placed over the whole.

LVI. SIR HENRY BELLASSIS.

This monument is of ancient architecture, decorated with coats of arms, and small figures in the attitude of prayer. The inscription, which contains no date, states, that he erected the monument himself; and it concludes with an admonition, in latin, thus translated :

“Death is certain, the day of it is uncertain; there is no dependance on the care of those that follow us; he is wise that prepares himself a tomb—The habitual remembrance of Death and Judgment, is the best preservative from sin.”

LVII. J. F. ABBOT, ESQ.

A small plain tablet, against the wall, is inscribed :

“The remains of John Farr Abbot, esquire, of Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, who died at York, 22nd September, 1794, aged 38.”

LVIII. RICHARD WHARTON'S (ESQ.)

Is a very neat white marble monument, on a black marble ground, executed by Messrs. Fisher, of York; and thus inscribed :

“Near this marble, lie interred, the remains of Richard Wharton, of Carlton, in the county of York, esquire, who died 17th November, 1794, aged 64 years.

“HE WAS A MAN WHOSE VIRTUES WERE BEST KNOWN

TO HIS FRIENDS AND TO THE POOR;

FOR HIS LIFE WAS PRIVATE, THOUGH NOT SOLITARY;

HIS PIETY WAS SINCERE, HIS MANNERS AMIABLE,

AND HIS BENEVOLENCE TRULY CHRISTIAN.”

On the top of this inscription is an elegant sarcophagus, with the family arms in front.

LIX. ARCHBISHOP SAVAGE.

On the opposite side of the choir, is this monument. It is a solid table tomb, with a mitred figure, laid at full length, with his croiser; and is decorated with coats of arms, and Gothic mouldings; but has no inscription.

LX. STONE COFFINS AND EFFIGIES.

In a recess, adjoining to the tomb last described, the stranger will observe the two stone coffins found without Bootham-Bar, and described in the first volume of this work. Near them are also placed two stone effigies, removed from another part of the church: one of them is robed in chain armour, shield, &c., and is supposed to represent one of the family of Manley—the other was formerly supposed to be Roman; but has lately been considered as a Saxon layman of high rank.

LXI. DEAN HIGDEN.

Drawing nearer the inner gates, two old monuments will be observed, the brass inscriptions of which were stolen away, probably at the reformation. One is supposed to be Bryan Higden's, dean of York in 1539—the other is unknown.

LXII. PRINCE WILLIAM DE HATFIELD.

Nearer the outer gates of the north aisle of the choir, the eye will be attracted by rich tabernacle work in the north wall, and on near inspection, will perceive a full-length alabaster figure of prince William de Hatfield, second son of Edward the third, in ducal robes, with a lion *couchant* at his feet.

Here, the author closes his description of the monuments; every one of which he has personally surveyed, and therefore trusts the reader may feel confident of his being correct. Other monuments are mentioned in ancient records, but they are now no longer to be seen; all which remain, being here enumerated, in their regular order.

In addition to the monuments, there are some few inscriptions on the floor of the cross aisle, one, with the family arms, to the memory of Frances Graham, relict of the Rev. Dr. Graham, of Netherby, in Cumberland, who died in 1801, aged 69;—but to enumerate all these, would swell the work with unimportant matter.

VESTRIES.

The vestries are on the south side of the choir. That on the right of the south entrance, in which morning prayers are read, has already been mentioned. The first therefore that the stranger will now enter, is not worthy of much attention, containing little more than a few old chests, in which the revenues of the church, or the robes of the clergy, were formerly deposited; they being at that time placed in the room used as the treasury,

adjoining to the present council room, or inner vestry.

The inner vestry, in which the archbishop generally robes himself, is a warm and convenient room, with a large wooden table, and seats on each side. It contains several closets, in which are preserved various registers, and the following objects of curiosity, relative to the history of the church:

1st. A large horn, given to the church by Ulphus, son of Toraldus, who governed in the west parts of Deira. "He," says an ancient writer, "by reason of a difference that was likely to happen between his eldest son and his youngest, about his lordships, when he was dead, took this course to make them equal. Without delay, he went to York, and taking the horn wherein he was wont to drink, filled it with wine, and kneeling on his knees before the altar, bestowed upon God and the blessed St. Peter, all his lands, tenements, &c." Several lands which were part of this donation, situate on the east of York, are still called *de Terra Ulphi*. Previous to the reformation, this horn, which is made of an elephant's tooth, and is about twenty-nine inches in length, and curiously carved, was

handsomely adorned with gold, and was pendant on a chain of the same metal. These rich ornaments were, no doubt, the occasion of it's being stolen from the church, at that important period; for it is evident by Camden's remarks, that the horn was not there in his days: "I was informed," says he, "that this great curiosity was kept in the church till the last age."

Thomas lord Fairfax was instrumental, in it's restoration to the church; but where it had lain, or how it came into his possession, is uncertain; for it was returned by Henry lord Fairfax, his successor; though stripped of it's golden ornaments. In 1675, the dean and chapter decorated it anew, but with brass instead of gold, and caused a latin inscription to be engraved upon it, expressive of it's origin and restoration.

2nd. A canopy of state, of gold tissue, and two small coronets of silver gilt, which the city gave in honor of James the first, on his first passing through York, from Scotland, in his way to London.

3rd. Three silver chalices, and several rings, found in the graves of archbishops and others, on the removal of the old pavement of the church.

4th. A *wooden head*, found near the graves of archbishop Rotherham and archbishop Scroope—the former died of the plague, and was buried in effigy; the latter was betrayed and beheaded.

5th. A very superb pastoral staff of silver, about seven feet in length, with the figure of the Virgin Mary, and an infant in her arms, placed under the bend of it. This was given by Catherine of Portugal, queen dowager of England, to her confessor, when he was nominated to be catholic archbishop of York, by James the second, in 1687. It is said that when he was marching in procession to the minster, the earl of Danby wrested it from him, and deposited it in the hands of the dean and chapter.

6th. A large and elegant bowl, originally given by archbishop Scroope, in 1398, to the company of cordwainers of this city. In the middle of it, the cordwainers' arms are richly embossed—it is edged with silver, double gilt, and ornamented with three silver feet; and upon the rim is the following inscription in black letter:

Richard arche beshope Scrope grant unto all tho
that drinkis of this cope XLti dayes to pardon.

Robert Gobson beshope messn grant in same forme
aforesaid XLti dayis to pardon. Robert Strensall.

On the dissolution of the company of cordwainers, in the year 1808, this cup was given by the members to Mr. Sheriff Hornby, of this city, as a mark of esteem ; and he soon afterward generously presented it to the cathedral.

An antique chair, is also shown, supposed to be as old as the church itself. In this chair, several of the kings of England have been crowned ; and when the archbishop is officiating at the cathedral, it is even yet placed within the altar rails, for his use.

The preceding, together with an iron helmet, some ancient spurs, and a few other trifles, constitute the whole of the curiosities at present exhibited in this vestry.

CHAPTER-HOUSE.

On the north side of the church, is the chapter-house, a noble octagonal building, of sixty-three feet diameter, which, though now joined to the north transept, was, it is evident, formerly detached. This has been said to have no equal in the universe. The florid style of architecture, which it displays, is certainly very ancient ; but, though many conjectures have been made respecting the original founder, it is yet, and probably will for ever remain, a subject of great uncertainty.

At the entrance into the chapter-house, the following compliment is inserted on the wall, in Saxon letters of gold, supposed to have been written by a monk, who had travelled over many parts of the world :

" Ut Rosa Phlos Phlorum, sic est Domus ista Domorum."

(As the Rose is the chief of flowers, so is this the House of Houses.)

The height of the building to the middle knot of the roof, is sixty-seven feet ten inches. This large and lofty octagonal dome, is not supported within by any pillar, but is entirely dependant on the equilateral pressure, preserved by one pin or plug, geometrically placed in the centre. On the outside, there are eight buttresses.

Forty-four canons' seats, or stalls, range along the walls round the building, highly finished in stone. These are all arched over, the curiously wrought canopies being supported by one hundred and eighty slender and elegant marble pillars, on which many singular figures have been represented. Above those arches, runs a gallery, entirely round, which is most exquisitely carved, and has been richly painted and gilt. Seven sides of the octagon, are each adorned with a window, rich in tracery and painted glass, representing coats of arms, and other devices : The

other side, in which the door is placed, has been painted with representations of saints, kings, bishops, &c.; the three centre figures being supposed to be those of archbishop Walter de Gray, with Henry the third on one side, and his queen on the other. At the base of this part, and above the entrance, images of the twelve apostles, with those of the Virgin Mary, and the child Jesus, in the midst of them, were formerly placed. These images, if we may credit tradition, were all of solid silver, double gilt, the apostles being about a foot high, judging by the places where they stood, and the virgin nearly twice that height. It is generally believed that Henry the eighth stole them from this cathedral, or had them *presented* to him by archbishop Holgate, to prevent him from committing the theft.

We cannot close the account of the chapter-house better, than by giving a quotation from Camden: He says, that Æneas Sylvius, afterwards Pope Pius the second, gives this character of the cathedral of York, and of the chapter-house in particular: "It is famous for it's magnificence and workmanship all the world over; but especially for a fine lightsome chapel, with shining walls, and small thin waisted pillars completely round."

The regular incomes of the several ecclesiastics connected with this cathedral, are very considerable; but the particular rents assigned for the express support of the fabric, do not rise to so large an amount as some have imagined. Mr. Torre, who published an octavo account of the Antiquities of York, in 1719, calculated them "at £171 2s. 8d., besides St. Peter's part as a residentiary;" but, William earl of Strafford bequeathed, in addition to the above, a legacy of £1000, by which, lands in Barrowby, &c., were purchased to the value of £48 per annum. These rents, augmented by the change in the value of lands, together with what arises by the occasional renewal of leases, and some few other perquisites, we believe constitute the whole funds for keeping this vast building in repair.

Having taken a general survey of the origin, progress, and present state of this interesting object;—having wandered amongst the tombs of many generations, and pointed out the changes which have, through the lapse of ages, followed in gradual succession; the writer now concludes his description of this noble and celebrated edifice.

SECTION III.

CLOSE OF THE CATHEDRAL, WITH ITS APPENDAGES.

*Ancient Palace—Minster Library—Newly discovered
Dungeon—Peter Prison—Church of St. Michael-
le-Belfrey—Register Office—Deanery—Arms of
the See—St. William's College—the Bedern, &c.*

THE several appendages to the cathedral, nearly surround the edifice; and were formerly detached from the city by walls, and four pair of large gates*; the remains of some of the latter being visible even at this day. The circumference of this district is nearly three quarters of a mile; commencing at Bootham-Bar, passing along Petergate, and ending again at the same gate, by a large circuit of the city walls, including what is now called the Precentor's Court, though the

* The gates were placed as follow—One into Petergate, facing Little-Blakestreet—Another opening into Petergate, opposite Stonegate—A third, at the end of College-street, opposite the Bedern—And a fourth, in Ugglesforth.

precentors have nothing to do with it. Those gates, when entire, were closed every evening.

ANCIENT PALACE.

The archbishops of York had formerly several palaces in different parts of the country ; but now there is only the one at Bishopthorpe, which shall be described hereafter. The most magnificent of those palaces stood within the close of the cathedral, on the north side of the edifice. It was built by archbishop Thomas, the first of that name ; and after the lapse of about five hundred years, the great hall of this palace was taken down by archbishop Young, merely through an avaricious desire for the lead that covered it. Since that time, other parts of the ruined edifice have been leased out from the see, but even by the present remains, we may be easily convinced of it's former extent and magnificence.

MINSTER LIBRARY.

Near the scite of the ancient palace, stood a small chapel, which having also become very ruinous, the present dean caused it to be repaired. Previously to this improvement, the library had been placed in the chamber of an out-

building, on the south side of the cathedral. This chapel now exhibits a pleasing specimen of the early style of Anglo-Norman architecture—the lower story is used as a repository for the ornamental stone work, constantly preparing for the reparation of the cathedral; and, the upper apartment, to which the ascent is by a handsome flight of stone steps, is used for the LIBRARY.

This room, though not spacious, is very neatly fitted up for the purpose. The floor, which is supported underneath by strong stone pillars, is composed of oak. The west window contains, in beautiful stained glass, the armorial bearings of the members of the church; in the centre of which, is a shield representing the arms of the duke of Clarence, who visited the cathedral, September 29, 1806; and the side windows are formed of ground glass, which prevents too great a glare of light. Chairs, tables, and a fire, for the convenience of reading, are provided; and, as the room is shelved for books, to the top, a very neat and light oak gallery has been erected in front of the higher shelves, which adds much both to the convenience and ornament of the room.

It has already been observed that archbishop Egbert, in the eighth century, was the first contributor to this library, and that his collection was destroyed by fire, in the year 1069. Archbishop Thomas, in the reign of the first William, founded another, but this unfortunately shared the fate of the former, in the year 1137. The next contribution of importance, was in the early part of the seventeenth century; when Mrs. Matthew, relict of the archbishop of that name, presented to the church her husband's private collection of books, amounting to more than three thousand volumes,

This collection, enlarged by several later purchases, gifts, and bequests, including a small collection of books left by the will of the late Mrs. Fothergill, widow of the Rev. Marmaduke Fothergill, constitutes nearly the whole of the present library.

Mr. Torre's manuscripts on ecclesiastical affairs, add much to the value of this collection; there is also a copy of the first edition of Erasmus's New Testament, in greek and latin, upon *vellum*. It is in two vols. folio, date 1516, and is in excellent preservation. With those, may be enumerated some fine manuscripts; and also several curious

ancient *Missals*, some of which were taken from a French ship of war, by lord Howe, on the first of June, 1794; and presented to the dean and chapter of York, by the duke of Clarence.

On the whole, this library may be termed a valuable collection; and, as additions are constantly making to it, a hope may be entertained, that, ere long, it will become very extensive.

NEWLY DISCOVERED DUNGEON.

Mr. Drake mentions the chapel of *St. Sepulchre*, which formerly stood not far from the site of the present minster library. He speaks of it in the following terms:

“ On the *north* side of the church also, and near the archiepiscopal palace, stood formerly the chapel of St. Sepulchre, which has a door still remaining, opening into the north aisle of the nave. The foundation of this chapel being very *ancient* and *extraordinary*, I shall transcribe Mr. Torre’s account as follows:”

“ Roger, archbishop of York, having built, against the great church, a chapel, he dedicated it to the name of the blessed and immaculate Virgin Mary and holy Angels; for the celebration of divine services, to the eternal honour

of God, glory of his successors; and remission of his own sins. He ordained the same to be a perpetual habitation, for thirteen clerks of different orders, viz.: four priests—four deacons—four sub-deacons—one sacrist. All these to be subservient to the will of the archbishop, especially the sacrist; who shall be constituted procurator of the rents and revenues belonging to it. Paying to each of the priests ten marks per annum; to each of the deacons, one hundred shillings; to each of the sub-deacons, six marks. And he himself shall receive ten marks per annum, for his own salary, besides the residue of the rents that remain over, and besides what will complete the sum of all the portions of the priests, deacons, and sub-deacons.

“ Also he willed that the said sacrist, of his own cost, expend ten shillings on *Maunday*, as well in veiles, wine, ale, vessels and water for washing the feet of the canons, and of other poor clerks, to the use of those poor clerks. And also to contribute sixteen shillings to the diet of the said poor clerks; that in all things the fraternity and unity of the church may be preserved.

“ And for their necessary sustentation, he, of his own bounty, gave them the churches of Ever-

ton, Satton (with Scroby chapel,) Hayton, Berdesey, Otteley one mediety: And procured of the liberality of these other faithful persons, the church of *Calverley*, ex dono Willielmi de Scoty—The church of *Hoton*, ex dono Willielmi Paganel—The church of *Harwode*, ex dono Avicie de Rominilly—The church of *Thorpe*, ex dono Ade de Bruys, et Jervte de Arches uxoris suae. To this chapel also, did belong the churches of *Colingham*, *Clareburg*, *Retford*.”

To the above extract from Torre, Drake adds, that “Sewal, archbishop, perceiving the revenues of these churches to be very much increased, appointed vicars to be established in them, presentable by the *sacristan*; and made divers orders for the better government of the ministers, whom, from thenceforth, he caused to be called canons. These orders are at large in Mr. Torre’s, and are printed in the first volume of Stevens’s *Monasticon*; both extracted and translated from Dugdale. It would be needless here to insert them, as well as Mr. Torre’s catalogues of the names and times of collation, of the *sacrists*, and all the sacerdotal prebendaries of this chapel, from it’s first original foundation to it’s dissolution. We may believe it underwent the last change

very early in the work of the Reformation ; for it was certified into the court of augmentations, held in the thirty-seventh year of the reign of Henry the eighth, to be of the yearly value of *one hundred and ninety-two pounds sixteen shillings and sixpence*. But it was standing here much later, for I find that the tithes belonging to this chapel, and the chapel itself, were sold to one Webster, the fourth of Elizabeth."

The writer has been thus minute respecting this building, on account of the singular events which have since occurred. After the edifice had ceased to answer the purposes originally intended, part of it was converted into a public-house, known by the name of the "*Hole in the Wall*," and thus it remained during several years.

At length, however, it became ruinous, and in the year 1816, was entirely taken down ; at which time, the workmen came to a *Dungeon*, some feet below the present surface of the earth. It had been unconsciously used by the publican, as a cellar for his ale ; but bore all the marks of despotic cruelty, which tyranny could suggest, or fanatic enthusiasm portray.

The approach was by a flight of stone steps ; at the bottom of which, were two massy oak doors, one against the other ; each five feet seven inches high, by two feet seven broad, and five inches in thickness ; with hinges and staples in proportion. Through those doors, entrance was obtained to the horrid abode, which was thirty-two feet five inches in length, nine feet four inches broad, and about nine feet and a half in height—the walls being four feet ten inches thick.

On the side opposite the doors, were three windows, or, more properly speaking, sloped cavities for air ; to each of which was an iron door, perforated with holes on the outside, and iron grates, or bars, within. Along the walls, were also the evident remains of iron staples, to which, in all probability captives had been chained.

Against the wall opposite those windows, was a strong oaken frame, like our modern *stocks*. It was nearly the whole length of the dungeon, and contained a great number of cavities, apparently for the feet of prisoners to pass through.

At the farther end of the dungeon, was a “ *Hole in the Wall*,” about five feet from the floor ; whence the publican had named his house ; and which, at the first sight, appeared like the

entrance to one of those places for *immuring* captives; so admirably alluded to by Walter Scott, esquire, in the following quotation from his *Marmion* :

" And now that blind old Abbot rose,
 " To speak the chapter's doom,
 " On those the wall was to inclose,
 " Alive within the tomb";
 " Fixed was her look, and stern her air;
 " Back from her shoulders stream'd her hair;
 " The locks that wont her brow to shade,
 " Stared up erectly from her head!
 " Her figure seem'd to rise more high;
 " Her voice, despair's wild energy
 " Had given a tone of prophecy.
 " Appalled the astonished conclave sate;
 " With stupid eyes, the men of fate
 " Gazed on the light inspired form,
 " And listened for the avenging storm;
 " The judges felt the victim's dread;
 " No hand was mov'd—no word was said,
 " Till thus the Abbot's doom was given,
 " Raising his sightless balls to heaven:
 " —" Sister! let thy sorrows cease;
 " —" Sinful brother, part in peace!"
 " An hundred winding steps convey
 " That conclave to the upper day;

—•••••—

" *It is well known, that the religious, who broke their vows of chastity, were subjected to the same penalty as the Roman vestals, in a similar case. A small niche, sufficient to enclose their bodies, was made in the massive wall of the convent; a slender pittance of food and water was deposited in it, and the words, VADE IN PACEM, were the signal for immuring the criminal.*"



Curious Saxon Sculpture,

FOUND ON WEDNESDAY THE TWENTIETH OF AUGUST, 1817, SUBSEQUENT TO PRINTING THE ACCOUNT OF THE MINSTER. IT WAS LAID, WITH THE FACE DOWNWARD, AT THE BOTTOM OF A FLIGHT OF STEPS, LEADING INTO AN OLD BUILDING, BEHIND THE CATHEDRAL.



This singular relic of superstition, is generally supposed to represent a man in the agonies of death, surrounded by demons, who are tormenting the body, and seizing the departing spirit. It is believed to have been originally the base of the arch over the door-way into the *Dungeon*, described in pages 123 to 130, being of similar stone to that used in this place of confinement, and it's dimensions corresponding with the door-way found there. It is deposited in the Minster Library, where it may now be seen; and where the writer ascertained it to be 3 feet 7 inches in length at the bottom, and 2 feet 7 inches at the top; also 11 inches thick, and 14½ inches in depth.

“ But ere they breathed the fresher air,
“ They heard the shriekings of despair,
“ And many a stifled groan :
“ With speed their upward way they take,
“ (Such speed as age and fear can make,)
“ And cross’d themselves for terror’s sake,
“ As hurrying, tottering on.
“ Even in the vesper’s heavenly tone,
“ They seemed to hear a dying groan,
“ And bade the passing knell to toll
“ For welfare of a parting soul.”

Such was the general opinion, on the first discovery of this dungeon ; yet, on closer investigation, several steps were observed through the cavity, and this induced the workmen to remove the front wall, in order to discover, if possible, the *original* purport of the recess. This measure was fortunate, for it developed in some degree, the use of the whole place. It removed the general idea that victims were anciently there *immured*; and it confirmed the opinion of the place having been used as a Prison ; but, whether it was for civil or ecclesiastical purposes, is doubtful, and must perhaps for ever remain so ; though the circumstance of this having formerly been part of a chapel, or connected with one, renders the latter more probable.

Four stone steps led up from the dungeon, to a place evidently intended to accommodate the *prisoners*, for the relief of nature ; being

formed exactly in the usual way, and guarded below by strong iron bars; which, though the workmen are rapidly removing the ruins, may yet be seen. They, however, are not likely to remain long, as the two doors belonging to the dungeon have already been taken away, and are now hung as folding doors to a vault, or cellar, in the new masons' yard, nearly adjoining.

PETER PRISON.

Not far from the dungeon just described, is the Prison and "*Hall of Pleas*," for the liberty of St. Peter. The principal entrance to this building is in the minster-yard, by a flight of stone steps; and the highest story consists of a small court-room, with a jury-room adjoining, where causes in *common law* are tried, for all persons residing within this liberty. The second story consists of two small day-rooms for prisoners, with lodging-rooms adjoining, and two cells for felons, beneath, without any yard attached. There are also other rooms, in which the jailer and his family reside. His annual salary is about £30; but there are no jail fees now allowed; those having been taken off in September last.

The writer of this work has hitherto been desirous of avoiding every remark that might be

unpleasant to the feelings of any individual ; and to this principle he wishes to adhere, in the present case ; for he cannot persuade himself that the respectable characters who preside over this prison, are fully aware of the wretched state of it's accommodations, for the few unhappy creatures who may be placed within it's walls. And he would feel extremely gratified, if these hints should be the means of exciting their attention to the cause of humanity and benevolence, and of eliciting a minute investigation. This would, undoubtedly, tend to a more comfortable provision for these wretched children of poverty and vice ; for, however men may transgress the laws of their country, they are allowed in this enlightened age, still to have claims upon our sympathy, and to be subjects of that noble philanthropy, which animated the breast of a Howard, and prompted his generous exertions, for the relief of the most abandoned and miserable of mankind.

After describing this prison, we are naturally led to make some remarks on

THE LIBERTY OF ST. PETER.

This term involves all those parts of the City and County, which belong to the Church of St.

Peter, or Cathedral of York, or are connected with it. Mr. Newstead, a gentleman of this city, in his official capacity as Clerk of the Peace and Under-Steward, published a pamphlet on the subject, in 1789, in which he says :

“ Many remarkable privileges and immunities are annexed to this ancient and respectable liberty, as well by custom, (which, from authentic evidence, existed before the reign of kind Edward the confessor) as by charters granted to the dean and chapter of York, by several of the kings of England, and confirmed by act of parliament; and it is an *exclusive* jurisdiction.

“ The inhabitants, men and tenants, of this liberty, are, in particular, exempted from the payment of all manner of tolls throughout England, Ireland, and Wales; but it is necessary to have a certificate of such exemption, which any person residing within the liberty may procure, by applying to the under-steward of the same.

“ Four several general quarter sessions of the peace are held for this liberty in every year, at the *Hall of Pleas*, near the gates of the cathedral church of St. Peter, in York, viz. : on the Saturday in each of the weeks appointed by statute for holding general quarter sessions of the peace.

“ A court is also held at the same hall, before the steward or under steward, every three weeks, which court holds plea in actions of debt, trespass upon the case, replevin, &c., *to any amount whatever*, where the cause of action arises within the liberty; and a court leet and view of frank-pledge for the whole liberty, (commonly called the Sheriff's Turn) is likewise held at the same place twice in every year, viz. on the Wednesday in Easter week, and the first Wednesday after New Michaelmas-Day, at which the several petit constables, freeholders, and sidesmen within the liberty, are required to attend.”

It is requisite further to observe, that the Liberty of St. Peter has it's own separate magistrates, steward, under-steward, chief bailiff, coroners, chief constables, &c., the same as any other independent division or liberty; but to particularize in this work, each town, or place, which is comprehended within it's district, might be considered by many, an unnecessary detail.

BELFREY'S CHURCH,

Is the next public building in the minster-yard. It was confirmed to the dean and chapter of York, by pope *Celestine III.*, in the year 1194;

and being formerly an appendant to the vicarage of St. Martin, in Coneystreet, it was, for a long time, granted with it. It is called a rectory, and is usually demised to the incumbent, by the dean and chapter, at the rent of *ten pounds* per annum.

The original building was taken down in 1535, and the present erection immediately commenced; but it was ten years in completing. It is the largest and most elegant church in York, except the cathedral; and is supported within by two rows of light Gothic pillars, of excellent architecture. The altar-piece was erected, by the parish, in 1714. It is composed of four oak pillars of the Corinthian order, which, with the entablature, arms of England, &c., have a very pleasing effect. The monumental inscriptions, in this church, are not important, though many families of consequence have been interred within its walls. The common burying ground was formerly adjoining the cathedral, nearly opposite to the church; but at present, a piece of ground near the Groves, is devoted to the purpose. We must not, however, dwell on the subject, being anxious to avoid swelling this work with descriptions not generally interesting.

Besides the church just described, there formerly were two other parish churches within the close of the cathedral, viz.: "*St. Mary ad Valvas*," and "*St. John del Pike*." The former was taken down in 1365, when the rectory was united to that of the latter; and the church of *St. John del Pike* was also removed, and the parish, except those houses which were in the minster-yard, was united to the church of the *Holy Trinity*, in Goodramgate, Jan. 27, 1585. The site of the last-named church was near that gate of the minster-yard, which led into Ugglesforth, and the rectory-house stood in the angle, not far from it.

HOLGATE'S FREE SCHOOL.

There is yet a *free school* in this part of the close of the cathedral. It was erected and endowed by archbishop Holgate, who fixed an annual salary of twelve pounds on the master of it, above all other sums he might obtain, in the situation as a teacher. He also ordained that Thomas Swan, the first school-master, and his successors, should be a *body-corporate* for ever, and have a common seal for the affairs of the said school. Each successive archbishop of York, for

ever was to be patron ; but, should he not present within *twenty* days, the power was to devolve on the lord mayor and aldermen. Should they also neglect to present within the same length of time, the patronage is left to the archdeacon of York, and twelve of the most substantial housekeepers in the parish. The original deed, signed Robert Holgate, is kept amongst the city records, and is dated 1546 ; but the unfortunate situation of the present schoolmaster, prevents his fulfilling the benevolent design of this establishment.

THE TREASURER'S HOUSE.

A large and handsome stone building near the same end of the minster-yard, built in 1696, formerly belonged to the *treasurers* of the church, who occupied it till that office was abrogated. This house thus falling to the crown, was granted out again, and underwent great alterations. It is now possessed as private property, and has been lately divided into several tenements.

REGISTER OFFICE;

OR, ARCHBISHOP'S PREROGATIVE OFFICE.

Returning to the church of St. Michael-le-Belfrey, and proceeding thence in regular course,

an old building, at the east end of that church, presents itself to view, in which this office is kept. The registering of wills, granting of various licenses, &c., &c., are too well known as the business of this office, to require explanation; and the customs, fees, &c., are similar to those of most other archiepiscopal offices.

The registers here are supposed to be of an older date than any others of the same kind in the kingdom; for they begin with the rolls of Walter de Grey, who entered upon his dignity in the year 1216; whereas, those in the archives at Lambeth, belonging to the see of Canterbury, do not go higher than the year 1307. Prior to the reformation, the records in this office had been kept with very great care and exactness; by which, a vast fund of ancient ecclesiastical and other history, may now be found here.

In treating of this office, the reader will understand we are describing the *archbishop's prerogative*. But it is not the only office of the kind in York: the dean and chapter have a distinct office, in which similar affairs are transacted for the inhabitants of the *Liberty of St. Peter*, as the other is for the general diocese of York. This

latter office, as well as the archbishop's, is enriched with many very ancient and valuable records, and is under the management of Mr. Mills, who resides in the minster-yard, but holds his office in Petergate.

DEANERY.

The next building in the minster-yard, is the deanery. It is a spacious and convenient residence, of very antique appearance; behind which, are large and fruitful gardens. A gate on those premises, and in the line of the wall encompassing the close of the cathedral, opens into Petergate.

It is here requisite to notice the institution, &c. of the deanery, as an office; which Thomas, the first of that name, archbishop of York, originally founded. This ecclesiastic ranks in the church next to the archbishop, and in the chapter, as supreme. He is elected by the canons, or chapter, is invested by a gold ring, and installed by the precentor of the church. It is the duty of the dean, with the chapter's consent, to make convocations, to admit persons presented to dignities or prebends, to invest them by the book and bread, and, to command the precentor to install them.

In Roman Catholic times, this functionary was also obliged to perform certain ceremonial parts of the service in the choir: such as hallowing the candles, washing the feet of the poor, &c. And Drake observes: "By an ancient custom of this church, the dean of it was obliged for ever to feed or relieve, at his deanery, ten poor people, *daily*—This was for the soul of good queen *Maud*; and for which purpose, he had the churches of Kilham, Pickering, and Pocklington, annexed to his deanery."

The revenues of this office are very considerable, but any statement, as to the amount, is avoided, through motives of delicacy unimportant to the reader. This brief historical sketch shall therefore be closed by

A LIST OF THE DEANS OF YORK,

WITH THE YEARS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CREATION.

— Mr. Hugo	12— Galf. de Norwico
— William de Sancta Barbara	12— Fulco Bassett
1142 Robert de Gant	1244 Mr. Willielmus
11— Robert de Botevillin	124— Walter de Kyrkham
1186 Hubert Walker	12— Sewall de Bovile
1189 Henry Marshal	1256 Godfrey de Ludham
1191 Mr. Symon de Apulia	1258 Roger de Holderness
1206 Mr. Hamo	1264 William de Langton
12— Roger de Insula	1279 Robert de Scardeburgh

1290 Henry de Newark	1496 Geoffry Blythe, S. T. B.
1298 William de Hamelton	1503 Christ. Baynbrigge, L. L. D.
1309 Reginald de la Goth, <i>cardinalis</i>	1507 James Harrington, Presb.
1310 William de Pykering	1512 Thomas Wolsie, S. T. D.
1312 Robert de Pykering	1514 John Younge, Leg. D.
1332 William de Colby	1516 Brian Higden, Leg. D.
1333 William de la Zouch	1539 Richard Layton, Leg. D.
1347 Phil. de Weston	1544 Nicholas Wotton, L. D.
— Dom. Tailerand, ep. Alban	1567 Matthew Hutton, S. T. B.
1366 Dom. Joh. Anglicus, <i>cardinalis</i>	1569 John Thornburgh, S. T. P.
1381 Dom. Adam Easton, <i>cardinalis</i>	1617 George Meriton, S. T. P.
1385 Mr. Edm. de Strafford, L. L. D.	1624 John Scott, S. T. P.
— Roger Walden	1680 Richard Marsh
1392 Richard Clyfford, L. B.	1663 William Sancroft, S. T. P.
1401 Thomas Langley, Presb.	1664 Robert Hitch, S. T. P.
1407 John Prophete	1676 Tobias Wickam, S. T. P.
1416 Thomas Polton, L. B.	— Thomas Gale, S. T. P.
1421 William Grey, L. D.	1702 Henry Finch, A. M.
1426 Robert Gilbert, S. T. P.	1728 Richard Osbaldeston, S. T. P.
1437 William Felter, Dec. Dr.	1747 John Fountayne, D. D.
1454 Richard Andrews, L. L. D.	1802 George Markham, D. D., who
1477 Robert Bothe, L. L. D.	also, at present, occupies this
1488 Christ. Urstwyke, Dec. Dr.	distinguished office.
1494 William Sheffield, Dec. Dr.	

ARMS OF THE CHURCH.

The arms of the church were anciently, *azure*, a staff in pale *or*, surmounted by a pall *argent*, fringed as the second, charged with five crosses pattee fitched *sable*, in chief another such a cross *or*. These arms are impaled, in some of the windows of the cathedral, with the arms of

Bowett, Rotherham, and Savage ; but they have since been changed for this bearing : *Gules*, two keys in saltire *argent*, in chief a *crown imperial* or, with the mitre. The crown was added to the shield, on account of York having once been an imperial city ; and the whole arms are represented in the title-page of this volume, on a shield in a reclining position, with the Minster Library in the back ground,

ST. WILLIAM'S COLLEGE.

A narrow street, within the close of the cathedral, and leading towards the *Bedern*, was anciently called " VICARS' LANE." It afterwards was termed " LITTLE-ALICE LANE," from the reputed circumstance of a diminutive old woman having kept an ale-house within it ; but is now designated " COLLEGE-STREET." This name has been given from it's leading to the site of a college, erected here, to the honor of St. William, archbishop of York ; for the " parsons and chantry priests of the cathedral to reside in ;" it being deemed contrary to the honor and decency of the said church, for them to live in houses of *laymen* and *women*, as heretofore.

It appears that letters patent were granted, for this purpose, by Henry the sixth; but from some unknown cause, the said grant was never put in execution. Edward the fourth, however, granted other letters patent, in the first year of his reign, dated at York, May the eleventh; commanding George Nevill, then bishop of Exeter, and his brother Richard Nevill, then earl of Warwick, and their heirs, to found and sustain this college, and to have the nomination of the provost of it for ever. The establishment was to consist of twenty-three chantry priests, or petty canons, over whom the provost was to preside.

They had lands amongst them in common, towards reparation, maintenance, &c., of the yearly value of £12 12s. 8d., in addition to the endowments of their chantries; but this establishment shared the general fate at the dissolution; and was sold to Michael Stanhope, esquire, from whom it passed to the ancient Yorkshire family of Jenkins.

In the unfortunate reign of Charles the first, this college was the property of Sir Henry Jenkins, knight; and whilst the king was at York, at the commencement of the civil war, printing-presses were erected for the service of that mo-

narch, within it's walls, as described in the first volume of this work.

It afterwards became part of the estate of the right honorable Robert Benson, lord Bingley, and by marriage descended to George Fox, esq., of Bramham-Park, in this county. This most respectable family yet retain it, the mansion being at present the property of James Fox, esquire, from whom it is rented on lease, by Mr. Jameson, a solicitor of this city, who now inhabits one part of it.

Much of the college is yet entire, and is situated on the left, in passing from the cathedral. The outer entrance is by a small portal of very antique appearance, the old oak door of which is yet remaining; and in a niche over it, is a figure or image of St. William. On the left is a flight of stairs, leading to the different rooms over the door-way; one of which was formerly decorated with very antequely figured tapestry, but it was removed about a year ago. The whole building forms a quadrangle, inclosing a small court-yard; round which, against the several apartments, are the remains of many curious ornamental figures, in wood.

The principal entrance to the interior from the court-yard, is opposite the outer one, and is also by a large antique door-way, the ascent to which is by four stone steps. At this entrance, there are two recesses in the walls, evidently for religious purposes; and opposite the door, is a staircase, about eight feet wide. This leads to the upper rooms, which, as also the lower ones, are now let out to several poor families*. It is worthy observation, that the followers of the late



* When looking over the apartments of the old college, the author of this work found a neat antique room, inhabited by the poetess, CHARLOTTE RICHARDSON, who teaches a small school here, and whose poems have been published in two vols. post 8vo, and have gone through several editions by the aid of her kind and liberal patroness, *Mrs. Cappe*, of this city.

Charlotte Richardson, whose maiden name was Smith, was born in York, in the year 1775, under very unfavourable circumstances, and early imbibed those religious impressions so strikingly evinced in her poems, by the instructions received at a Sunday School. At twelve years of age, she was admitted into the Grey Coat School, in York; and soon evinced a mind superior to her situation. In her 16th year, she left the school, and engaged herself as a servant in a respectable family. She

Johanna Southcote in this city, held their religious assemblies in one of those rooms, where the writer of this, excited by curiosity, once attended with a friend, to witness the effect of fanaticism on weak and deluded minds.

There are several other smaller staircases, in various parts of the building ; but the rooms to which they lead, possess no peculiarity worthy of observation. Under the whole, are three or four cellars ; one of which, by an extremely large fire-place, appears to have been used as a kitchen.



soon afterwards lost her mother ; and in 1796, became cook-maid to a widow lady ; in which situation, she had more opportunity for mental improvement, than in the former. Affliction, however, attended her path, for she had an only brother, who, though a cripple, had been bound apprentice to a shoemaker in this city, and after much cruel treatment from his mistress, was taken to the York poor-house, where he soon terminated a life of suffering. A short time after this event, she again exchanged her situation, engaging with another widow lady, in whose service she, by care and industry, increased her stock of books, and also was able to indulge her talent for poetic composition. In October, 1802, she married a shoemaker of the name of *Richardson*, who had a little property, which enabled them to open a small shop. This was the

The oak beams, supporting the floor above, are enormously thick, and yet have the addition of props. The other cellars are small and trifling.

THE BEDERN,

Formerly written *Bederne*, was a college of vicars choral, belonging to the cathedral. Though in Goodramgate, it also extended to Aldwark and St. Andrewgate, and consequently was not within the close, yet is always classed with that district, on account of it's connexion. This college being originally the exclusive residence of the vicars choral, clearly owes it's name to that circumstance; *Bede*,

summit of her wishes ; but her happiness was transient—it was interrupted by a severe illness ; from which she had scarcely recovered, when her husband showed consumptive symptoms ; and about two months after she had become a mother, he bade adieu to all earthly affairs. In this situation, Mrs. Cappe, the lady before-mentioned, observed and admired the patient resignation of the widow ; and having accidentally seen some of her poetic effusions, kindly revised and ushered one volume of them into the literary world, by subscription, under her own respectable patronage. By this beneficent act, the widow was enabled to open a small school, for the support of herself and son. A second volume has also since appeared, highly honorable both to the humble author and to the generous editor.

though now obsolete, being formerly used very commonly for the verb *to pray*; and *Erne*, implying a solitary place, or detached dwelling. Other modes of derivation have been suggested, particularly alluding to it's being the site of the Roman palace, or of the baths connected with the palace; but, though the residence of the Roman emperors did stand here, as already described, the derivations drawn from this source are all very unlikely, and deserve little attention.

The vicars choral were formerly thirty-six in number, according to the number of the prebendal stalls in the cathedral, one of whom was chosen by the rest, as *custos*, to preside over them. Besides attending to the daily office in the choir, it was their duty to perform the offices of the dead, in the several chapels and oratories, at certain hours, day and night. The ancient rule was for each canon to have his own vicar, in priest's orders, to officiate for him, he paying to the vicar, out of his profits, the annual sum of *forty shillings*; and the vicar was to be entitled to the canon's choral habit, in case of the death of the employer.

The Bedern is of very ancient date, and appears, by an inquisition taken in the year

1275, the fourth of Edward the first, to have been given "to God, St. Peter, and the vicars serving God, in pure and perpetual alms, by one *William de Lanum*, canon of the church; but, the major part thereof, was of the common of the land of Ulphus, with another certain part of the see of the archbishop, and by him eleemosynated to them."

The college of vicars choral was first ordained in the year 1252, by archbishop Walter de Grey; and the ordinance was confirmed by king Henry the third, in a royal charter, dated October 15th, 1269.

In the ancient statute-book of this college, are many ordinances and regulations, which we cannot here detail: one of them, issued by the chapter, in 1353, commands that no vicar choral from thenceforth shall "keep any *woman* to serve him, within the *Bederne*; and the subchanter do acquaint the vicars, that they warn all their *women servants* to depart their service, on the penalty of *twenty shillings*, payable to the fabric of the church for every one not observing this ordinance."

The whole college and site of the Bedern were sold, in the second year of Edward the

sixth, to Thomas Goulding and others, for £1924 10s. 1d.; but, it appears that this sale was afterwards disannulled; for, in the sixth year of the same reign, "it was ordained and decreed, by the chancellor and surveyor-general of the court of augmentations, that the dean and chapter of York, for themselves and for the sub-chanter and vicars choral, shall from thenceforth have and enjoy the said house called the *Bederne*, and all the possessions belonging to it, except the chantries and obits to them anciently assured, without any interruption or molestation of the said court, &c.; so it was adjudged that this their college, was appendant to the cathedral church, and not within the statute of dissolved free colleges, chantries, &c."

Thus preserved, it has ever since remained in the possession of the vicars-choral; but their chief means of support, the chantries and obits, being dissolved; their numbers are greatly diminished. The Bedern is consequently no longer their exclusive habitation; but the several dwellings are let out on leases; and this once splendid seat of Roman grandeur and imperial honour, is now, in many instances, little better than the sad receptacle of poverty and wretchedness. Mr.

Drake, however, was incorrect in saying that the old collegiate hall, where the vicars usually dined in common, was taken down; for the author has personally surveyed the premises; and though he found the hall converted into dwellings, he was much gratified by noticing the ancient outer walls of the edifice, with the evident remains of Gothic windows, and other vestiges of former days.

The old records, leases, &c., of the vicars-choral, were, till very lately, deposited in a room near the collegiate hall; but the situation being considered not very eligible for them, the dean and chapter granted leave for their removal, into part of the out-building, near the cathedral, opposite the archbishop's prerogative court, which was formerly occupied by the Minster Library.

BEDERN CHAPEL.

There is a very ancient chapel in the Bedern, which was founded in the year 1348, by Thomas de Otteley, and William de Cotingham; and was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and St. Katherine.

The building is yet nearly entire, and till within the last two years, it was very remarkable for its rich windows of painted glass, which

were six in number—three in front, and three behind. It is, however, with some regret we observe the beautiful glass in the former, has lately been substituted by common small squares, by which much of the antique appearance of the chapel has been destroyed. The glass was removed with intent to enrich a new-erected church in the country, but the dean having heard of the affair, very properly prevented it's leaving York; and it is now deposited in one of the vestries in the cathedral.

About sixteen years ago, divine service was performed here at nine o'clock on the mornings of each Wednesday and Friday in Lent; the bell which was then rung for the service, and occasionally tolled in cases of death, yet remains; but it is never used now, the clerical duties there, being at present confined to the christening of children, and the churching of women.

A Sunday school is now taught in the chapel, which is nearly six yards wide, and about twice the length. There is an old font on the left of the entrance, but the altar table stands at the upper end of it; and though Drake says it was of handsome marble, the present one is merely a slab of free stone placed on a wooden frame—the

ornamental work against the wall near it, is, however, curious, being of oak wood singularly carved.

When the Bedern was in it's prosperity, there were gates to inclose the whole, opening into Goodramgate; and a porter's lodge stood on the site of one of the small houses nearly adjoining.

The revenues of the vicars-choral connected with this place, have varied according to the fluctuations of times and circumstances.

SECTION IV.

Streets and Public Buildings, ancient and modern, within Micklegate-Ward; including a brief Historical Description of each, with occasional Observations.

THE author's attention must now be directed to the several other streets, and public erections, within the walls of the city. York, as already mentioned, is divided into four wards; and in page 335 of the first volume, the extent of each is stated. To describe the wards separately, will therefore, be the most clear and distinct method; and, as *Micklegate Ward* embraces the principal entrance into the city, and all the south side of the river Ouse, we shall commence with this division.

MICKLEGATE,

WITH STREETS AND OBJECTS ON THE RIGHT.

Micklegate, which name merely implies *large* or *spacious street*, is undoubtedly, the widest and most elegant street in York. It is situated at the entrance of the city from London; and

extends from the bar to the corner of Skeldergate. This street contains many handsome houses; and the situation being elevated, airy, and healthy, it is the residence of many gentlemen, even whose general concerns are more in the centre of the city. On entering at Micklegate-Bar, the first object that attracts attention on the right, is an old gateway, which formerly was the portal to the

PRIORY OF ST. TRINITY.

This priory stood in the gardens, yet called Trinity Gardens, beyond the portal. It was a cell to that of *Marmontier*, or *majus monasterium*, at Tourain, in France; and was founded by Ralph Paganel, who came over with the conqueror, and was made high sheriff of the county of York. In this situation, he had a church in York given to him, in fee, which was dedicated to St. Trinity, and stored with canons, &c.; but that establishment was destroyed by William, at the rendition of the city. Anxious to restore the religious service in it, and not knowing of any more effectual means, the original founder granted it to the abbey of St. Martin, *majoris monasterii*, in France, for a perpetual possession, and for the entire control of the monks. He also granted, for

the support of the monks who might possess it, the church of *St. Trinity* itself, together with three crofts lying on the west side of the city; also “the church of *St. Elene*, within the said city, with the toft of one deacon adjacent, the churches of *All-Saints*, in *North-street*, *St. Bridget*, in *Muclegate*, and the chapel of *St. James*, without the bar.” Several churches, lands, &c., in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire were also granted at the same time; but to enumerate them here, would be useless.

The priory was surrendered, in the thirtieth of Henry the eighth, by a prior and ten priests; and, at the dissolution, was valued at £196 11s. 10d. The circuit of the ground belonging to the site of the priory, is very extensive; being bounded by Micklegate in front, by Trinity-Lane on the east, the city walls on the west, and it's own wall, on the south.

No remains are now to be seen of the priory, but this curious old gate-way, which appears in excellent preservation, and is very likely to attract the attention and excite the inquiries of every inquisitive stranger. Beyond the gate-way is a stone and marble-yard; but a common gardener now occupies the principal part of the

grounds, which are known by the name of *Trinity Gardens*. The whole is the property of the family of Goodrick, of Ribston-Hall, in this county—Sir Henry Goodrick, bart. being the present owner.

THE CHURCH OF ST. TRINITY,

Adjoining, yet remains, but bears all the marks of former greatness, and of diminished consequence, particularly from the gardens, where many a ruined arch, in the mouldering exterior, presents to the view, a venerable and yet pleasing appearance. The parish of St. Nicholas was united to this, according to the statute, in 1585, but the living is now of very small value. The parsonage house, which stands in the east corner of the church-yard, was built by H. Rogers, the minister, in 1639.

There is nothing worthy of particular notice in this church; we shall therefore pass forward to the adjoining street, commonly called TRINITY-LANE, which leads to the church of

ST. MARY, BISHOPHILL THE YOUNGER.

This is a neat and commodious building, the north side of which is almost wholly composed of large stones of the grit kind. It stands at the

confluence of Trinity-Lane, Bishophill, and Fetter-Lane; and was esteemed one of the great farms belonging to the dean and chapter, who usually demised it with the advowson of the vicarage, to one of the canons residentiary.

The villages of Copmanthorpe and Over-Poppleton, belong to this church and parish; and the dean and chapter have the tythe of corn and hay of them; the vicar having, for his *share*, “the oblation of his parishioners, mortuaries, and personal tythes, also the tythes of orchards and nurseries, and increase of cattle; but out of this, he is obliged to pay to the farmer of the chapter, a small annual stipend. Near this church, is a

FREE SCHOOL,

Built by the late Mr. John Dodsworth, formerly an ironmonger in York; who endowed it with *ten pounds* per annum for ever; on the express condition, that twenty poor children from the six parishes on that side of the river, in proportion to their sizes, should be educated therein, free of expense. It was opened on the first of January, 1804.

Leaving this school, and proceeding up the lane leading to the church of Bishophill the Elder, the

stranger will observe on the left, a small field or croft, at present used as a wood-yard, with an admirable declivity towards Skeldergate. It is now generally known by the name of

THE DUKE'S HALL,

In consequence of having been the site of a large mansion, occupied by the unfortunate George Villiers, duke of Buckingham. This ground, and the extensive gardens on Bishophill, were purchased of several persons, by the family of *Thwaites*, from whom they descended to that of *Fairfax*, by marriage, in the reign of Henry the eighth. The house was built by Thomas lord Fairfax, whose daughter and heiress was married to the nobleman just mentioned. After his banishment from court, and when he had become deeply embarrassed by his fashionable follies, the duke, whose reverse of fortune has been admirably portrayed by the poetic talents of Pope, retired to this house, where he lived some time.

On the death of the duke, this property had many claimants, but it was ultimately awarded to the ancient family of Fairfax, of Newton. At the time when Drake published his *Eboracum*, the *skeleton* of this house was standing,

and he also mentions an *outshot* from it, which was built for the duke's laboratory in chymistry.

Even the stones which composed the wasting skeleton, are now removed. When walking over the ground with a very old inhabitant of that neighbourhood, who remembered having often seen the ruins, the author was told that they had all the appearance of an ancient abbey ; and that there were some considerable cellars or vaults underneath, which had never been filled up, but their entrances merely closed, and covered with earth ; so that in all probability, should the ground be opened, at some remote period, these vaults may supply matter for ignorant astonishment, or for extraordinary antiquarian research.

Nearly adjoining Duke's Hall, and at the head of a lane leading from Skeldergate, called *Kirk-Lane*, is the church of

ST. MARY, BISHOPHILL THE ELDER.

This church is not large, but being ancient, and having a double row of trees in the church-yard, it possesses a very rural and pleasing appearance. A quantity of mill-stone grit is observable in it's walls ; but the steeple, which is square, is of brick, and was built by the

parishioners, in 1659. The interior of the church is neat, but if we except those of the families of Pawson and Fairfax, which were united by marriage, there are not any inscriptions worth notice. The north choir, was the seat and burial-place of the latter, when they resided in this parish; and it consequently yet displays some monumental remains, and the family arms.

In 1585, the parish church of St. Clements, without Skeldergate-Postern, was united to this church.

On the opposite side of Kirk-Lane, is a square inclosure, commonly called

THE QUAKERS' BURYING-GROUND;

From it's being used by the Society of Friends, for the interment of their dead. It is surrounded by walls, and contains some trees of venerable appearance. When Mr. Drake wrote, there were also a few tombs and inscriptions, but there is now nothing of the kind; plain mounds of earth being it's only marks of a cemetery. The situation is elevated, and consequently very dry; and the ground is completely covered with thick grass. In front, is a small dwelling, in which a person resides who has the care of the inclosure,

Proceeding hence, nearly to the site of Skeldergate-Postern, the reader will observe on the right

THE NEW JAIL,

For the sole use of the city and ainsty. It is surrounded by a high brick wall, and the building is entirely of stone, erected on an elegant and extensive scale, reflecting much honour on the city, and on Mr. Peter Atkinson, the architect, and city steward. The erection, which commenced in 1802, was completed in 1807. The outer wall incloses about three-quarters of a square mile; and the entrance is by a Porter's Lodge, in which the Under Jailer resides, who is paid for attending to the door, out of the Jailer's regular salary.

In the centre of the area stands the prison, there being a neat court-yard or garden, in front, where the debtors have the liberty of walking; and a garden behind the building; both kept in excellent order.

On the *ground floor* are ten cells, for male felons, with a day-room, and a spacious flagged court-yard attached; also eight cells for women, with a similar day-room and court-yard. There are also five cells, two day-rooms, and a bath-

room, appropriated for prisoners confined as king's evidence, or merely for misdemeanors.

The *second story*, which is ascended in front by a flight of broad and handsome steps, guarded by iron railing, contains eight large sleeping rooms for debtors, with necessary conveniences to each, for coals, provisions, &c. The inner entrance to those rooms is from a gallery 170 feet in length.

On the *attic story*, there are four rooms, also for debtors. These, and the gallery adjoining, are similar to those above described. The whole structure is crowned with an ornamental cupola and vane, which add much to the beauty of it's appearance, and render it an object of greater interest, in surveying the public buildings of this ancient city.

In addition to the preceding, are the governor's apartments, which are chiefly in an outshot building behind the prison, but yet connected with it. The rooms are pleasant and commodious; and on the attic story, is a large airy apartment; neatly fitted up as a CHAPEL, in which the Rev. William Flower, Jun. preaches a sermon every other Sabbath, and reads prayers every Thursday; having a small salary of about £20 per annum

for attendance here, and at the House of Correction. Besides the chaplain, there is also a surgeon, regularly appointed for this prison; which station is at present occupied by Mr. Champney.

The prison is well supplied with water; having two pumps, one in front, and the other behind; by which means, the place is constantly kept very clean and wholesome. The present governor's salary, (Mr. Rylah) is £150 per annum, and all the jail fees, which latter were formerly paid by the prisoners, but are now defrayed out of the county rates.

When any felon is to suffer death, scaffolding is erected without the wall next to the *Old Baile Hill*, near the front corner; and an opening is made in the wall to admit the culprit to pass through; but we are glad in being able to state, that executions very rarely occur here.

The ground on which this prison stands, with that behind it, is supposed to have been the site of a very ancient castle; and is generally called the OLD BAILE. But some writers have confused the site of the castle, with that of it's citadel, a high hill, now crowned with trees, and cor-

responding with the site of Clifford's Tower. It is called

BAILE HILL.

Drake having given a very particular account of those two, on the authority of Leland, and Camden, the author will here introduce it in preference to any further remarks of his own.

Speaking of the former, he says: "It is called, in the most ancient deeds and histories that I have yet met with, *Vetus Ballium*, or *Old Baile*; which, according to the etymology of the word, can come from nothing sooner than the Norman *Baile*—a prison, or place of security; or from *Baile*, an officer who has the jurisdiction over a prison. It took this name, probably after the conquest, when the French language was substituted, in all places, instead of the English; and for that very reason I take it to have been a castle or fortress before that time.

"It is said, by several authors, that William the Conqueror built *two castles* at York, for the better security of the city and the country about it. But, if I may be allowed a conjecture, I suppose that he built one castle from the foundation, and repaired the old one; for, that there was a fortress here in the time of the Saxons, where king Athelstane be-

sieged and blocked up the Danes, has also been shown.

“ Leland, and after him Camden, are positive that this is the platform of an ancient castle, as the description of the city walls and bulwarks, given by the former, plainly shows. And, indeed, whoever carefully views it at this day, must be of the same opinion, especially when he is told that the ramparts, when dug into, are full of foundation stones, as I myself have observed.

“ There is a passage in *R. Hoveden*, which says, that when the bishop of Ely, lord chancellor and regent of England, came down to punish the citizens, for their barbarous massacre of the Jews, he delivered the high-sheriff over to the custody of his brother, *Osbert de Longchamp*, and then began to repair the castle in *veteri castellaria*, which king William had rebuilt. There is no doubt but by this *vetus castellum*, is meant our *Old Baile*; and this I think is sufficient to prove it a very ancient fortress.

“ How it came from a state fortress, to be the archbishops' prison, I know not; yet such it was; and not a palace for them, as some have supposed; it being absurd to think they had two palaces in the same town. The site of *Old*

Baile, and the district extending towards Ouse-bridge, is still called *Bishophill*; and, in our old registers, in the accounts of the constableries of the city, and their proper officers, I find this left, for the nomination of the archbishop, viz.: anno 1380, *vetus ballium in custodia archiepiscopi Ebor.*

“ I am as much at a loss to find when the church gave it up to the civil magistrate, for such it is at this day, without any leasehold that I know of. Anno 1326, first of Edward III., a dispute arose betwixt the citizens and William de Melton, then archbishop, which of them were obliged to repair the walls round this place. The cause was heard before *Isabel*, the queen-mother, at that time resident in the archiepiscopal palace, at York, in council, where Nicholas Langton, then mayor of the city, alleged that this district was the express jurisdiction of the archbishop, exempt from the city, and therefore he ought to keep up the fortifications of it. The archbishop pleaded that it stood within the ditches, (*infra fossatas civitatis*) and therefore belonged to those that repaired the rest. Upon hearing, it was given against the archbishop, who was obliged to repair these walls; and this is the

reason of that passage in Stubbs's life of this prelate, taken notice of by Camden and others, viz.: "*locum in Eboraco, qui dicitur vetus Ballium, primo spissis et longis xvii pedum tabulis, secundo lapideo muro fortiter includebat.*" The former account, which I have seen in an old register of the city, explains the latter, and gives us to understand, that it was only the city walls, round this place, which the archbishop repaired.

"I have nothing further to add about this ruined, antiquated castle, but that the *area* belonging to it, used formerly to be a place open for sports and recreations, but is now inclosed, and leased out by the city. The *mount*, which Camden mentions to have been raised for a tower to be built on, exactly corresponds to the citadel on the other side of the river. I hope it will not be thought trivial to inform posterity, also, that this mount, the pleasantest place for prospect about the city, was planted with trees, anno 1726, by the late Mr. Henry Pawson, merchant; then leassee of the ground; because, in time, they must be a particular ornament to the city; and it may serve to satisfy some people's

curiosity, *in futuro*, to know when they were put down there."

Descending the eminence called the *Old Baile Hill*, the stranger will enter

SKELDERGATE,

A long, narrow, and disagreeable street, which runs parallel with the river Ouse as far as the bridge. When York was more of a commercial city than at present, this street, being so near the river, was chiefly occupied by merchants, for the purposes of trade; and consequently, derived it's name from the old Dutch word *Keller*, or *Keldar*, a cellar, or warehouse. The first public object to be met with, is on the right, and is called

THE OLD CRANE.

Here, the goods that come from London, in the vessels originally built by subscription in 1769, and now called the Old Contract, are deposited; in order to be forwarded to their respective places of destination. This crane is the property of the Corporation, and with the Ferry nearly adjoining, is rented at about £80 per annum. The profits of the Ferry, and the charges of wharfage on landing and shipping

goods, constitute the principal income of the tenant.

Not far from the above, is another concern of the same kind ; called

THE NEW CRANE.

This is the property of Mr. Mills ; and was established long after the other. The goods landed here, are from vessels in a New Contract, or similar but more modern engagement ; yet the navigation of the Ouse being chiefly the property of the Corporation, and conducted under a committee of that body, whose boundaries extend to the mouth of the Wharfe, one-half of the *tonnage*, or lock-dues, is paid at the respective locks ; and the other half at the Old Crane ; but as an account of the Ouse and Foss navigations will be given under a distinct head, it is needless to offer more on this subject here.

Proceeding further in this street, the next public institution will be found on the left. It is called

MIDDLETON'S HOSPITAL ;

And was founded in 1659, by Mrs. Ann Middleton, relict of Peter Middleton, gentleman, who served the office of sheriff, in the year 1618.

This hospital is for the maintenance and lodging of twenty widows of poor freemen of York ; the said Anne Middleton having given by will *two thousand pounds*, for it's erection and endowment*. Each widow was entitled to four pounds per annum ; but an unfortunate circumstance having occurred respecting the principle, the annuities were for some time reduced to three pounds. At present, however, every widow possesses two rooms, and *nineteen shillings* are paid to each of them, quarterly, by the city's steward ; the hospital being under the direction of the lord mayor and corporate body in general.

This institution has lately been enriched by the Countess of Conyngham, who formerly resided in York, and at her decease about a year ago, left by will the annual sum of *two pounds* to each widow ;



*Mrs. Middleton gave to the city at the same time, *one hundred pounds*, on condition that the interest of it should be devoted to binding out as apprentices, the sons of poor freemen ; also £66 13s. 4d. to purchase plate for the use of the lord mayors successively ; and likewise £40 for Stock to employ the poor who had no labour—She also gave *one thousand pounds*, for the erection and endowment of a Free School, at Shipton, in the forest of Galtres.

which is paid half-yearly, from the spiritual court.

The hospital is built with bricks, in the form of a square, encompassing a small area ; and most of the doors belonging to the several apartments, open into a gallery which extends all round the building.

In 1675, a table, recording the charities of Mrs. Middleton, was erected over the front entrance. In the year 1771, this hospital being thought to project too far into the street, the whole front was taken down, and rebuilt in a more modern style, about a yard further back. A full-length stone effigy of the original foundress, was then placed in a niche over the door, where it yet remains. Behind the hospital is a square garden, which is divided into twenty beds or distinct parts, for the use and culture of each inhabitant.

Passing Kirk-Lane already mentioned,

ALBION CHAPEL

Next presents itself to observation. It is situated at the corner of a small street lately built, which is called ALBION-STREET, and leads up to Bishop-hill.

This chapel was erected by the society of Wesleyan Methodists, who are very numerous, and

have another chapel in this city, which will be noticed in it's proper place. Albion Chapel was first opened on Wednesday the sixteenth of October, 1816. It is a plain, but very neat and convenient structure, built with bricks, and capable of containing more than one thousand people.

Near the end of Skeldergate, which leads into the lower part of Micklegate, is a commodious and respectable inn, called "*The Elephant and Castle*;" and a little beyond it, on the left, is a narrow dirty street, called FETTER-LANE. By proceeding up this street, the stranger will soon arrive at ST. MARTIN'S-LANE, which runs into Micklegate, near to

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH.

This church was an ancient rectory, belonging to the patronage of the barons *Trusbutt*, then to the priory of Wartyr, and afterwards to the lords Scrope, of Masham. The church of St. Gregory, with all it's members, was united to this church, in 1585; hence it is sometimes called *St. Martin's-cum-Gregory*. It is a neat ancient structure, the steeple of which is more modern than the rest of the building, having been taken down and rebuilt, at the charge of the parish, in 1677.

In the church are several small monuments, but none remarkable. The painted glass in the windows is, however, very beautiful; and in the exterior walls of the building, as also in the wall of the church-yard, are several curious pieces of defaced Roman sculpture. An old manuscript, which now lies before me, states that the curious sculpture in honor of the Persian god, Mithras, described in the first volume, and now in the possession of Mrs. Cappe, of this city, was placed in the wall of this church-yard, soon after it was found; and that it remained there several years, till Mr. Sandercock, a dissenting minister in York, procured and preserved it.

In the front of St. Martin's church-yard, is a building, in some degree connected with the trade of York; and called

THE BUTTER STAND.

This building, which succeeded a very ruinous one, that had been blown down the preceding year, was erected in 1778, for the purpose of weighing and marking butter. Great quantities of this article were formerly brought to York, from various places; and after being weighed here, and marked as correct, were purchased by contractors, and forwarded by water to London.

This is one of the privileges of the corporation of York; and the butter stand is consequently rented from that body; the tenant being authorized to charge *one halfpenny* for every firkin, or half-firkin, he weighs or marks. About thirty years ago, the annual rent for this place was *forty pounds*; and at that time, *eighty thousand* firkins of butter were annually received at this office; but the trade has ever since been declining, and on that account, we find that ten years afterwards, the rent had been reduced to £30.—It is now only £20, and there are at present not more than fourteen or fifteen thousand firkins annually shipped from York.

In case of deficiency of weight, the offending party is liable, by law, to a fine of *five pounds*; but the usual custom here is, to demand a forfeit of two shillings per pound. When this trade was at the height of it's prosperity, there were thirty porters, whose business it was to attend here, in order to convey the butter to the respective warehouses, and also to assist in shipping it; for which, the buyers paid them a regular stipend per firkin.

STREETS, &c.

ON THE LEFT SIDE OF MICKLEGATE.

Adjoining the rampart just within Micklegate-Bar, is part of a beautiful

ROMAN TESSELATED PAVEMENT;

The only one of the kind ever met with in this city. It was discovered in March, 1814, not far from the surface of the earth, by some workmen who were digging there. They also found, at the same time and place, a few Roman coins, several broken pieces of *urns*, with pieces of charcoal, and bones. The Roman pavement is calculated to have been originally about four yards square, but unfortunately, only a part of it could be preserved by the occupier, Mr. J. Thackwray, who resides at the sign of "*The Jolly Bacchus*," adjoining, and rents the premises on a lease from the corporation. He very laudably formed an erection over it, in order to preserve for public inspection, this curious relic of antiquity; and the few coins then found, are also in his possession.

Mr. Fowler of Winterton, having heard of the circumstance, immediately took a drawing of the pavement; from which, he afterwards published

a large and beautifully coloured engraving, price ONE GUINEA AND A HALF; “ *Dedicated, by permission, to the Right Hon. William Dunsley, Lord Mayor;*” but this engraving rather represents what it may be supposed to have originally been, than what it now really is.

The small part which has been preserved, is not level, like the floor of a house or tent; but sloping, one end being considerably higher than the other. This, however, may have been occasioned by a settlement of the ground, at the lower end; perhaps owing to some of the revolutions that must have occurred in the bowels of the earth, during the long period in which this specimen of Roman refinement and ingenuity laid concealed.

Some persons have imagined that this pavement was the ground work, or floor, of a general's tent, from the reputed circumstance of the Romans taking with them, when on a march, a person whose business it was to carry along with him this species of chequered dies, or coloured stones, with which he paved or inlaid the platform of the commander's tent; but this is merely one of the many speculative opinions that have been brought forward, respecting the purpose for which the Roman tessellated pavements were designed.

The learned Roger Gale was of opinion, that they were the floors of *banqueting houses*, or of some of the chief and most elegant apartments in the dwelling-houses of the Romans, and were not confined to the floors of their generals' pavilions in a camp. They might be used for the latter; but, as none of these pavements found in England, seem to have been discovered within the limits of any camp, it is much more likely that they belonged to domestic edifices.

This seems confirmed beyond dispute, by many of the pavements which yet remain near Boroughbridge, in this county, at *Aldburgh*, the site of ancient *Isurium*, the capital of the Brigantes. Some of these have evidently been for large, and others for smaller rooms; and they are so distant from each other, that it must evince they could never have belonged to one tent or house. Besides, the variety of execution displayed by each, clearly shows they were designed and laid at different periods, during a long series of years. Hence we may suppose they were the floors of the grand apartments, chief rooms, or baths, in the private houses of the principal or most opulent class of the people;

as carpets are used in the present day. When the Romans were obliged to abandon Britain to the incursions of the Barbarians, they burned and otherwise destroyed those beautiful buildings; many of which yet bear evident marks of fire.

Not far from the tessellated pavement, formerly stood *the church of St. Nicholas*; but we have already observed, that it was joined to Trinity church and parish; and as there are now no remains of the fabric to be seen; we shall pass on to an adjoining open piece of ground, called

TOFT GREEN.

It was anciently called *Les Toftes*, and had also the name of *Pageant Green*; most likely from the fraternity of *Corpus Christi* drawing up here, in order for their religious procession round the city. By an ordinance, still on the records of the city, dated 1457, it was then commanded that a weekly market for oxen, cows, hogs, and other animals, should be held on this ground every Friday; but in no other part of the city or suburbs. And though the practice has long been discontinued, a market for swine was held here every Wednesday, till very lately. This, however, has

also been discontinued, and a public building, called

THE NEW HOUSE OF CORRECTION,

Now occupies part of the ground. This edifice was designed by Mr. Peter Atkinson, of York, and erected by order of the magistrates of the city and ainsty. It was completed in 1814, under the joint direction of Messrs. Atkinson and Phillips, the architects, on whom it reflects much credit. Prior to this time, an old building on Peaseholme-Green, was used for the purpose of a House of Correction.

This new prison is surrounded with a high brick wall, inclosing the several erections, nearly in the centre of an open and spacious area. The outer entrance is by a neat porter's lodge; and this, with the buildings within, which are four in number, are chiefly formed of white bricks. One of these is a neat and commodious octagonal erection, entirely for the residence of the governor; excepting a room in the second story, which has been very neatly fitted up as a chapel. The ascent to it is by a light winding staircase. Here the Rev. Wm. Flower, Jun., reads prayers every Tuesday, and preaches a sermon every

other Sunday ; as mentioned in the account of the *New Jail*.

From this chapel, there are doors and open galleries into the other three buildings ; every one of which forms two distinct prisons ; and each prison comprises a day-room, a work-room, and a solitary cell on the ground floor, from which a flight of stone steps leads to four lodging-rooms above. Three of these contain one bed, and the other contains two beds ; the four rooms opening into a long narrow passage.

The prisons are all uniform, comprising together, twenty-four lodging-rooms, containing thirty beds ; and eighteen rooms on the ground floor ; with bath-room, and other conveniences. They are thus divided, in order that each offender may be disposed of according to the crime committed. To every prison, is a distinct yard, neatly flagged, with a water pipe in the centre, and a water closet for the convenience of the prisoners ; and the outer sides of the yards are well secured by lofty iron palisades.

The area round those prisons, yards, &c., is neatly cultivated as a garden ; and the appearance of the whole, is superior to most places of

the kind. The prison-fees are paid out of the county rates, and though the governor's salary is not very considerable, yet he reigns the subject lord of a fair domain.

A little beyond the House of Correction, is a street called

TANNER-ROW;

So named from having formerly been the residence of several persons following that trade, and who had their tan-pits between this street and the city walls, nearly adjoining.

In proceeding down Tanner-Row, the stranger will pass by the end of a lane on the right, leading into Micklegate, and anciently called *Gregory-Lane*, on account of the parish church of St. Gregory having stood in it, part of the wall of which may yet be seen. This church was united to St. Martin's, as already mentioned, and the street is now generally nominated *Barker-Lane*, or *Baker-Lane*.

A little above this lane, in Micklegate, is a very excellent inn, called "*The Falcon*;" the only one of consequence in this street. The accommodations in the house are very good, and the stables and out-buildings extend to the lane near Toft-Green.

A little lower down in Tanner-Row, and on the opposite side, is

HEWLEY'S HOSPITAL.

This is a neat brick building, raised above the street three steps; with wings at each end, both in front and behind; whereby a small court-yard is formed in each. Over the front entrance are the arms of the donor, below which is the following inscription:

"This Hospital was founded and endowed by Dame Sarah, the relict of Sir John Hewley, of the city of York, knight, Anno Dom. 1700.

"Thou, O God! hast prepared for the poor—Ps. 68, x."

The institution is for ten old women of the Unitarian persuasion, to be approved by the trustees. Every woman is allowed two rooms, and they originally had also six pounds each per annum; but by the general advance in the value of land, the yearly allowance is increased to fifteen pounds. It is paid by the Rev. Charles Wellbeloved, by instalments, on the first of every month.

In the court-yard behind, is a small distinct building, that is by them called a chapel; in

which, prayers are read three times every week, by a person appointed for the purpose.

Behind this hospital are very extensive gardens, now in the occupation of Messrs. T. and J. Backhouse, called

FRIARS' GARDENS;

and an historic sketch of them must prove very interesting. They were anciently the site of a Roman temple, sacred to the heathen god, *Serapis*, the foundation of which was discovered in 1770, as described in page 247 of the first volume. They were also in succeeding ages, the site of a Monastery, erected by a Christian fraternity, called "*The Friars' Preachers*;" from whom the gardens derived the name, which they still retain. Those friars, being of the order of *Mendicants*, or *Begging Friars*, had no lands but the site of their religious house; which was granted and confirmed to them at various times, as stated in the following extract from Drake's Eboracum:

"The confirmation of their charters by king Edward IV., proves by *inspeximus*, that the site of their monastery was granted them by king Henry III. It recites that this king bestowed on them his chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, standing

in a place called ~~Kinges-Toftes~~, and the ground about it exactly described by butments and boundaries, to reach to the city walls one way, and the *king's street* the other, for them to build upon, &c.—This charter was dated at Westminster, the eighth of March, in the twelfth year of his reign, or anno 1228.

“ By another charter of *inspeximus*, granted by the same king, he gives to this priory another piece of ground, near the walls of the city, to inclose, for the enlargement of their site ; as also gives leave to dig another well for one that was made in it, &c.—Dated at York, September 3, in the fifty-second year of his reign, or anno 1268.

“ King Edward I. granted them three toftes, with their appurtenances, towards the enlargement of their situation ; the statute of *Mortmain* notwithstanding—Dated at *Langley*, Feb. 18, in the twenty-sixth year of his reign, or anno dom. 1298. The same king, by another charter, granted them another piece of ground, as is expressed, contiguous to the court of their monastery towards the water of Ouse ; for the enlargement of the said court—Dated at *Stamford*, May 1st, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, or anno dom. 1300.

“ King Edward II., in the eighth year of his reign, granted these monks, for the sake of his soul, and those of his ancestors and heirs, two perches of land and a half in breadth, contiguous to their site, of the king’s measure, viz.: twenty feet to a perch, and fifteen perches in length, of that vacant space, called ~~Kinges-Cottes~~; to inclose and keep to their use for ever. And because there was a well in the same, for public use, he gave them leave to dig another well, at their proper costs, in some convenient place, for the common use of the men of the city—Dated at *Westminster*, Nov. 15, anno 1315.

“ All these former grants, by *inspeximus*, were confirmed to this friary, by king Richard II.; and because some part of their inclosure was broke down, without due process of law, he gives the friars leave to re-build and re-inclose, and to hold it for them and their successors for ever—Dated at *Westminster*, Nov. 24, in the fifth year of his reign, or anno 1382.

“ Lastly, king Edward IV. granted and confirmed all the recited charters to this monastery, and all and singular places and lands therein contained, to them and their successors for ever.—

Witness the king, at *York*, June 21, in the fourth year of his reign, or anno 1464."

The building is entirely removed, and all that now remains of this institution, is a curious old *draw-well*, the one before noticed, near which is placed as a trough, a Roman stone coffin. There was also lately found on those grounds, the seal of one of the superiors of the monastery, an account of which will be seen in the first vol., page 303.

When, or by whom this monastery was surrendered, is unknown; but Dr. Tanner says, that a convent of black or Dominican friars settled in this city, not far from Micklegate-Bar, by the bounty of Bryan Stapleton, esq.; the site of whose house was granted 32nd of Henry VIII. to William Blytheman, having been surrendered 27th Nov. 1539—the 30th of the same reign.

Proceeding down *Tanner-Row*, the stranger will enter North-Street; leaving on the left *North-Street Postern*, and the *Ferry* already mentioned; and also leaving a row of new houses, opposite the Ouse, called "*Wellington Row*."

NORTH-STREET,

Owes it's name to it's situation; and though narrow, contains several good houses. It runs in a

line with *Skeldergate*, along the banks of the Ouse, being guarded by several exceedingly strong water-walls, probably the out-works of large buildings, warehouses, &c., the property of merchants who formerly inhabited this street. Sir Thomas Widdrington* supposed that many of the rich Jewish merchants resided here; but this conjecture does not appear to be confirmed by any connecting circumstances.

At the entrance of *North-Street* from *Tanner-Row*, is

THE CHURCH OF ALL-SAINTS;

An ancient rectory formerly belonging to the priory of St. Trinity, in Micklegate, to which it was granted in the reign of William I., and confirmed by the *bull* of Pope Alexander the second. There formerly were many chantries and obits in this church; several original grants of which are yet preserved amongst the records of the city.



* Sir Thomas Widdrington was recorder of this city in 1656; and was that year also chosen speaker of the House of Commons. In this situation he wrote a *History of York*; which he offered to dedicate to the corporate body; but his offer was not received as he expected; the corporation intimating in answer, that from his

It is a neat structure, supported within by two rows of pillars; by which three spacious aisles are formed. The principal object in this church worthy of the stranger's attention, is the ancient painted glass in the windows, which has been preserved with peculiar care.

The steeple is a noble spire; and the south wall of the building appears very antique; being chiefly formed with grit, some Roman bricks, and pebbles. In this wall, is a curious inscription and piece of Roman sculpture, undoubtedly a monument of conjugal affection. It was noticed by Dr. Lister, who sent an account of it to the Royal Society. But, Drake says, "The attempts both by the Doctor and Mr. Horsley to read it, are frivolous; there being nothing to be understood from it, except the last word, which is very plain and apparent CONIVGI. The stone is put up in the wall of the church, so close to a large



exalted situation, he might have rendered the city a more essential service, by procuring an act to improve the navigation, or otherwise amend the trade of York. This answer so much offended Sir Thomas, that he would not proceed with the publication; and he carried his disgust so far, as to leave a prohibition on his successors, that it should never be printed.

buttress, that I imagined half of the inscription was hid by it; and therefore got a workman to make a trial, in order to lay it all open: But upon search, we found the stone was broken off in the midst, to make way for the buttress to enter the wall, and bind it the firmer."

Passing along North-Street, nothing of public interest will be observed, till the stranger has arrived at the entrance near Ouse-Bridge. Here stands the parish church of St. John the evangelist, commonly called

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH:

It faces Micklegate, and the east end of it stands towards North-Street. In this church, lie interred the remains of Sir Richard Yorke, of York, knight, mayor of the staple at Calais, and lord mayor of this city in 1469 and in 1482. St. John's church belongs to the dean and chapter of York; but it is no way remarkable, except by it's steeple having been blown down in 1551, and being never rebuilt. It is, however, worthy of observation, that the improvements near Ouse-Bridge, have rendered it requisite to contract the burying-ground in front of this church, in order to widen the street; which alteration has already been com-

menced, and is now in a state of considerable forwardness*.

The street from the corners of North-Street and Skeldergate, to the centre of Ouse-Bridge, is called

BRIGGATE;

Which is the only remaining part of *Micklegate-Ward* not described. As we are thus conducted



* A remarkable circumstance occurred here, whilst the workmen were removing the dead from that part of the church-yard intended to be joined to the street. A spectator observed, that he believed one of the men was digging near the remains of a bailiff, of the name of *Spink*, who, between thirty and forty years ago, was shot in the act of arresting at his lodgings in Micklegate, *Meek Myers*, a gentleman of Kirk-Hammerton, who soon after was tried, condemned, and executed at Tyburn, for the deed. Scarcely had the remark been made, when it was apparently confirmed by the man turning up a skull, in which was found a bullet. This, a medical gentleman of York procured, and preserves as a curiosity. It has however been remarked, that the jury who sat over the body of Spink, saw one bullet extracted from his head; hence it is probable, Myers had double charged the pistol, or else the skull found, must have belonged to some other person who had died by violence.

to Ouse-Bridge, though only half of it is in this ward, it seems a proper place to introduce a description of the whole, with it's several appendages,

OUSE-BRIDGE.

To give a minute history of Ouse-Bridge, under all it's numerous changes, would require more room than can here be devoted to the purpose; but we will however commence with it's annals nearly *seven hundred* years ago. Bridges of stone not being built till long after the Norman conquest, we find one here constructed of wood, in the year 1154; when William, archbishop of York made his first entrance into the city. On this occasion, such multitudes of people crowded on the bridge to meet him, the timber gave way, and some of them were precipitated into the river.

No doubt but this injury would be immediately repaired with wood; but about the year 1235, archbishop Walter de Grey granted a brief for the entire rebuilding of Ouse-Bridge, by the aid of charitable contributions. This erection, we may naturally conclude was of stone; for *Leland* states, that " in 1268, there was a peace and

agreement made with John Comyn, a Scotch nobleman, and the citizens of York, (*mediantibus regibus Angliae et Scotiae*,) for a fray which had happened upon the bridge, and wherein several of the said nobleman's servants had been slain." The conditions were, that *Comyn* was to receive three hundred pounds, and that the citizens should build a *Chapel* on the place where the men had been slain, and provide two priests for ever to celebrate mass for their souls.

In the year 1564, there were a severe frost, and a heavy fall of snow; which, being succeeded by a sudden thaw, an immense swell was occasioned in the Ouse. This flood drove down two arches of the bridge; and twelve houses which stood on them were all consequently overwhelmed in the ruin; twelve lives were also lost at the same time.

The bridge remained in this ruinous state for nearly two years; when a sufficient sum having been raised to rebuild it, the present venerable structure was erected on the site of the old one. Amongst the contributors to this bridge, Lady Jane Hall, relict of Robert Hall, an alderman, gave by will, the sum of one hundred pounds; to perpetuate the remembrance of which, a brass

plate was placed, by the city, on the north side of the bridge, with the following curious inscription, in old black letter :

William Watson lord-mayor, an. Dom. 1566.

Lady Jane Hall to ! here the works of faith does shew,
By giving a hundred pound this bridge for to renew.

This old inscription has long since disappeared ; and as the bridge itself will soon be superseded by a new one, it will no doubt be expected that some notice should be taken of it's dimensions, and of the buildings which have been erected upon it.

This bridge consists of five arches, and is termed by Camden, a very noble erection ; but the dimensions which he gives of the principal arch, and which were also copied by Drake, are incorrect. The late ingenious and indefatigable Mr. Halfpenny measured it, and thus expresses himself: " Taking it from the spring of the arch, it measures eighty-one feet in width, and to the key-stone twenty-six feet and three inches in height—the soffit is sixteen feet and nine inches in breadth. Having divided the diameter into sixteen parts, and the perpendicular height of

the arch at each division being taken, I find that a segment of a circle will pass through each point, except nearly half way between the spring and the crown of the arch ; a *pressure* having forced the arch a little out of it's curve." The width of the bridge on the top, between the walls, is six yards, including the causeways, which are very narrow. The battlements are rather low, and upon them are iron palisades, as represented in the annexed engraving :

In addition to the carriage-way and foot-paths just described, were several buildings on the west side of the bridge. The principal of those was

ST. WILLIAM'S CHAPEL,

Erected as already stated in this account. In confirmation of it, the workmen who removed the chapel, discovered a curious old painting against one of the walls, which represented the reputed battle on the bridge, between the servants of the Scotch nobleman and the citizens. At the reformation, this chapel contained several chantries, the original grants of which are still amongst the records of the city. After the reformation, we are informed that it was converted into an *Exchange*, where the society of Hamburgh mer-

chants of York, assembled every morning, for the transaction of business. Trade however, we lament to say, gradually decayed, and an Exchange consequently becoming unnecessary, the use of this place, for such a purpose, was discontinued.

In later times, this building was divided into several apartments, one of which became the great *Council Chamber* of the city; a Sunday school was taught in another part of it; and the old chapel likewise became the repository of the ancient records. The exchequer and sheriffs' courts were also kept there; and underneath, and at one end, was the city prison for felons, commonly called the *Kidcote*. At length, the desolating effects of time, occasioned the necessity either of taking it down, or of repairing it. Accordingly, in the year 1810, this chapel, which might be considered as a fine specimen of English or Norman architecture, was removed; though not before Mr. Halfpenny and Mr. Cave, both of whom have published illustrations of ancient fragments in York, had each taken their respective drawings. The former has remarked in his "*Fragmenta Vetusta*," that the entrance into the chapel, with several arches, &c., in the interior of

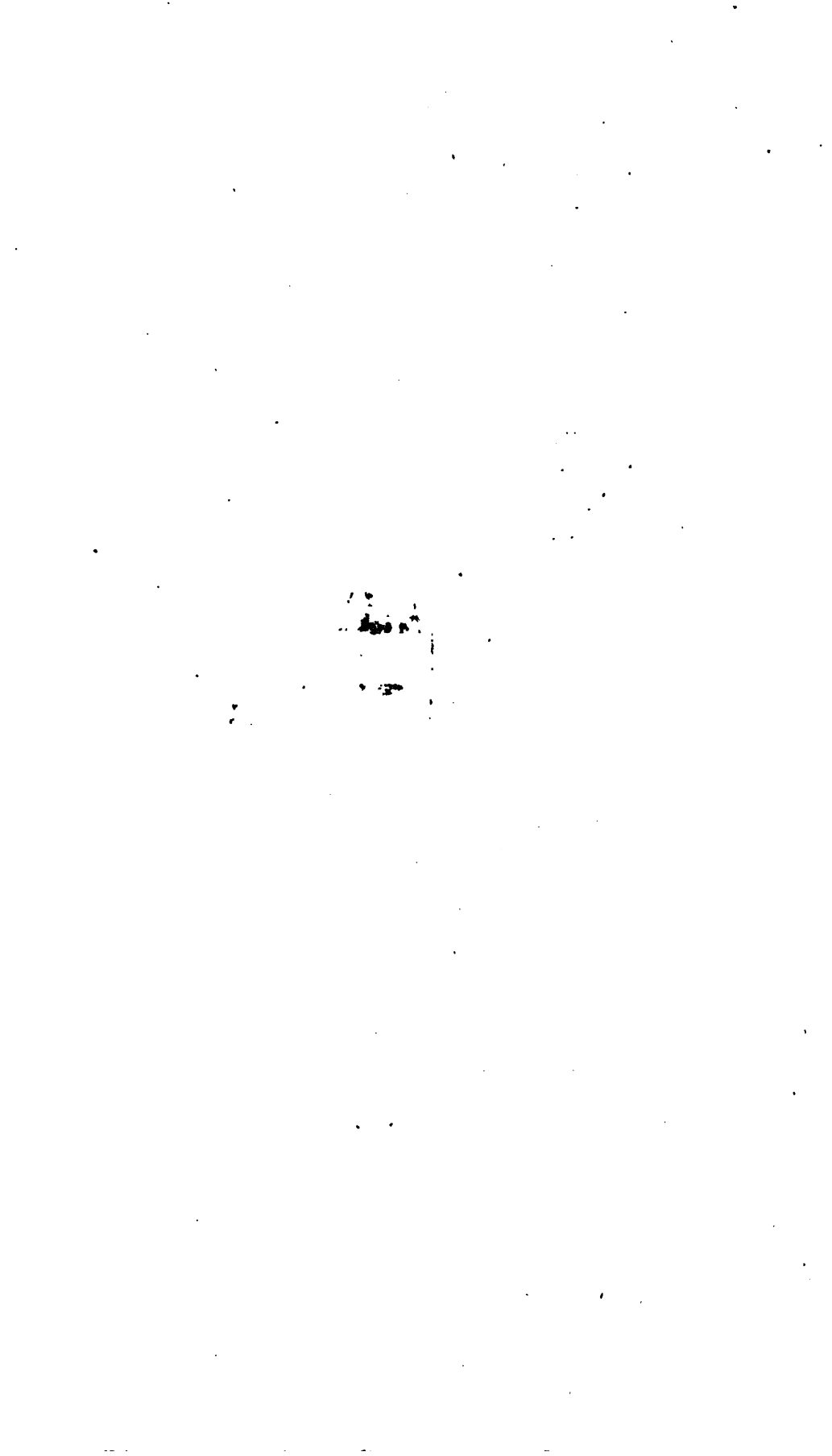
the building, were of an earlier date than the west end; whence he concluded the chapel had been enlarged at different periods, and probably owed its origin to some circumstance prior to the battle between the servants of the Scotch nobleman and the citizens. The form of the old chapel, bridge, &c., is faithfully exhibited, by the elegant and accurate copperplate representation given already.

On the opposite side of the bridge, stood

THE OLD JAIL,

For debtors; which was built in the sixteenth century; at which time another arch was added to the bridge, in order to strengthen the new erection. In 1724, this jail, and a small dwelling-house adjoining, were purchased of the corporation, by a joint contribution of the city and ainsty. They were immediately taken down, and a more commodious place was built, by assessment, as a free prison for both; and on the front of it was placed the following inscription:

"THIS GAOL WAS BUILT AT THE EQUAL EXPENSE OF THE CITY AND AINSTY, AND THE GROUND WHEREON IT STANDS WAS PURCHASED OF THE LORD MAYOR AND COMMONALTY OF THIS CITY, TO BE FOR EVER APPLIED TO THAT PURPOSE, A. D. 1724. THOMAS AGAR, LORD MAYOR."





'South' View of the proposed Bridge, over the Case!

When St. William's Chapel was removed, and the New Jail completed, this prison was converted into three dwellings; and it is occupied as such at present, though it will be taken down very soon, agreeably to the arrangements for the projected improvements attendant on the New Bridge*.

Of these improvements we now hasten to speak, under the general head of

THE NEW BRIDGE.

Brevity however must be observed, in touching on this subject; for minute investigation of causes and effects, would be decidedly incompatible with the design of this "Guide."

The precarious state in which the Old Bridge had long been considered, induced the Corpo-



* The dimensions of the present Old Bridge are given at page 193, according to the measurement of Mr. Halfpenny; but on the water being drawn off, and the span of the principal arch measured lower than it was by Halfpenny, it was found to be 81 feet 9 inches; being nine inches wider than he calculated, though we shall, no doubt consider him perfectly correct if we estimate the difference in the arch, between the surface of the water and the bed of the river; which were the two places of measurement.

ration of York to take the subject into serious consideration, in the autumn of 1808; and it was concluded that a new bridge, or a considerable alteration and addition to the old one, had become necessary. To defray the expense, a foot-toll was proposed by some, as one means of revenue; but this being opposed, the idea was abandoned, on condition that *eight thousand* pounds should be raised by voluntary subscription; which was soon effected.

This sum, aided by a horse and carriage toll, was now proposed, as sufficient to meet the requisite charges; an act of parliament was applied for; and delegates were sent to London, to support the interests of the bill. The design then being only to enlarge the Old Bridge on the north side, the highest calculation was, that the bridge might cost £60,000; that it would be completed in ten years, and that the toll might discharge the whole debt in twenty years. The bill was passed; but, on close investigation, it was discovered that a totally new erection was absolutely requisite; and an amendment to the bill was therefore procured.

Mr. P. Atkinson was unanimously chosen by the Corporation, as architect for the New Bridge;

and arrangements were accordingly made.— Houses in the vicinity of the bridge were purchased, and taken down, and Tuesday the 27th of November, 1810, was fixed upon for laying the foundation-stone of the structure. A grand procession was intended on the occasion, and preparations were made; but the river having risen very rapidly that morning, the design could not then be carried into effect.

On Monday morning, the 10th of the following month, the Corporation assembled in the Guild-hall, and were joined by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the County of York, and the Union Lodge, who, preceded by a band of the Fourth Dragoon Guards, came from their Lodge-Room in masonic form, each in their respective robes and decorations. About eleven o'clock, a signal gun was fired, and the procession moved in the following order :

Constables—Banners—City Engineer—Firemen—Band of Music—Officers at Mace—Sword and Mace—The Lord Mayor and Recorder—City Counsel—Aldermen—Sheriffs—Town Clerk and Lord Mayor's Chaplain—Common Council—Lord Mayor's Porter, with Staff.

Provincial Grand Lodge for the County of York—Martial Band of Music—Five Banners (promiscuous)—Three Banners—Tyler, with drawn sword—Two Grand Stewards, with wands—Provincial Grand Master—The Holy Bible—Square, and Compasses—The Grand Chaplain—Two past Grand Masters—Two ditto—Two ditto—The Lodge, veiled, supported by three brethren of the Nelson of the

Nile, Batley, and a brother of the Fidelity, Leeds, with wands—The Senior and Junior Grand Wardens—The Grand Treasurer with staff, and Secretary, with scroll—Two Banners—Two Grand Stewards, with wands—Two ditto.

The Union Lodge—Union Flag—Two Banners—Tyler, with drawn sword—Two Stewards, with wands—The Worshipful Master—The past Master—The Senior and Junior Wardens—The Treasurer and Secretary—Two past Masters—Two ditto—Two ditto—Two Stewards, with wands—The Brethren, two and two—Visiting Brethren, two and two—Two Banners—Tyler, with drawn sword.

Architect—Clerks of the Works—Master Mason—The *Stone*, weighing *two tons and a half*, on a rully, drawn by three horses—Masons, two and two—Foreman of Carpenters—Carpenters—Foreman of Whitesmiths—Whitesmiths—Strikers—Engineer—Foreman of Labourers—Labourers—Constables.

When the procession had reached the ground, where the ceremony was to take place, Mr. Atkinson, the architect, presented to the lord mayor a plan, and a beautiful drawing of the intended bridge; from which the design of the annexed engraving has been obligingly furnished by Messrs. Atkinson and Phillips. After the usual formalities, his lordship proceeded to lay the stone, in which, he deposited the different and latest current coins of the present reign, with a handsome medal, struck in commemoration of his majesty having entered the 51st year of his reign. These were placed together in a glass vessel; and were covered by a brass plate, inscribed :

“ THE FIRST STONE OF THIS BRIDGE, WAS LAID DECEMBER 10th, IN THE YEAR MDCCCX, AND IN THE FIFTY-FIRST YEAR OF THE REIGN OF GEORGE THE THIRD, BY THE RT. HON. GEO. PEACOCK, LORD MAYOR. PETER ATKINSON, ARCHITECT.”

The lord mayor then, in a neat and brief address, congratulated his fellow-citizens on the magnitude and utility of the edifice in contemplation; after which, the Rev. William Flower, the lord mayor's chaplain, delivered a prayer well-suited to the occasion.

The ceremony thus concluded, and the procession returned in the same order as it went—the Lord Mayor and Corporation retiring to the Guildhall, and the Freemasons to their Lodge-Room. The day, however, did not end thus: feasting and general rejoicing were kept up till a very late hour.

The purchasing of houses, commencement of the bridge, and various other expenses, soon incurred a debt of nearly £30,000. To redeem such a sum, and defray succeeding expenses by the bridge toll alone, would have been almost impossible; it was therefore proposed to have a toll at each entrance to the city; but this was warmly opposed, and soon relinquished.

The rates of the city, ainsty, and county, were then represented as the most proper source for assistance; and, after much opposition, an act of parliament was ultimately procured for that purpose, by a coalition of many of the contending

interests ; and commissioners were appointed to carry the measures into effect.

The act specified, that *thirty thousand pounds* should be paid to the commissioners, by the Justices of the Peace for the three Ridings of the County, out of the county-rates ; by *five* equal yearly instalments of £6000 ; the first of which should be paid on the first of December, 1815, and the other on the first of each succeeding December :—the *West-Riding* paying £2787 10s.—the *North-Riding* £1862 10s.—and the *East-Riding*, £1350 ; these being the usual proportions of all their county contributions.

The commissioners have likewise the power, if they choose, of demanding a sixth annual sum or instalment of £6000 from the three Ridings, in the same proportions. The act also further obliges all distinct districts, not paying to a general county rate, to contribute after the rate of three-eighths of a penny in the pound, on the amount of the property in each, to be valued according to the last returns for the property tax, and to be paid over to the commissioners yearly, in the manner already stated. The city and suburbs, exclusive of the Liberty of St. Peter, are likewise to pay annually, for the same pur-

pose, £105—the Liberty of St. Peter also £5; and the Ainsty, “being part of the county of the city,” £105; to be raised by two half-yearly, or four quarterly rates, to be continued for five or six years, as may be found needful.

In addition to these payments, the lord mayor and commonalty of the city are also obliged to contribute for the same period, the annual sum of £400; besides which, after the said time shall be expired, the corporation must still pay to the commissioners, the annual sum of £200, so long as any toll is continued. And the act expressly declares that the said toll, which at present produces about *three thousand* pounds per annum, shall remain until all expenses incurred by these improvements, be finally discharged, but no longer. It is also stated in the bridge bill last mentioned, that from and after the entire completion of the New Bridge, it shall always be kept in repair by the lord mayor and commonalty of the city of York; as belonging to the city, and not to the county at large.

According to the preceding design, the bridge was intended to consist of three elliptical arches; the central one to be 75 feet, and the side arches each 65 feet span. The breadth was to be 44

feet, leaving a clear space within the battlements, of 41 feet, viz.: 27 feet for the carriage-road, and 7 feet on each side for foot passengers. The streets adjoining, were to be considerably raised at the foot of the bridge, at each end, in order to avoid the present unsafe descents; and such parts of the ground cleared by the removal of old dwellings, as were not requisite for the enlargement of the bridge, were to be sold as building ground, on certain conditions.

Such was the original design; and so far as relates to the improvements of the streets, it is likely to be completed; but we regret to find, that after numerous discussions on the subject, on some of which occasions, much pains were taken to show the propriety of the measure, the handsome and bold scale so ably designed by the architect, has been contracted to the following dimensions, viz.: the width of the bridge, from 44 feet to 38 feet; and, consequently, the carriage road from 27 feet to 25 feet, and the foot paths, from 7 feet each to 5 feet each; or even these dimensions will be reduced, should the present funds be found inadequate.

It does not require much foresight, to pronounce, that such deviations, if persisted in, will

ere long be a source of regret, perhaps even to those who have most promoted them. The carriage road will be incompetent to admit of a coach, on overtaking a cart or waggon, to pass before it, whilst meeting a third vehicle: A circumstance that ought certainly to be provided for, in a building of this importance; which is the only carriage road over a river in the midst of a populous city. The causeways also will frequently be found too narrow, to admit all that will have to pass; so that some foot passengers will yet be obliged, as many are at present, to walk in the carriage way.

There is one more alteration proposed, which, though it may not be so incommodious, is no small deterioration from the first design. The battlement on each side is to be a plain parapet wall, instead of an open and elegant balustrade, as represented in the plate.

That those alterations will effect some reduction in the expenditure, cannot be denied; yet, in a work of such magnitude, and general utility, which is to be provided for by the most extensive county in Great Britain, the deviations from the original plan, are much to be lamented. To immure the bridge with close dead walls, in lieu

of displaying open and elegant balustrades, will certainly but poorly compensate for the saving derived; whilst the contractions of the width, in the estimation of many, will betray a parsimonious disposition, rather than evince a prudent frugality. The *tout ensemble*, will present a useful edifice, it is true, yet the reflections on it's completion must be mingled with regret, at so inferior a substitute for a much more useful structure; and one that, had the original plan been pursued, would probably have stood through successive centuries, a monument of the scientific superiority, and enlightened liberality of the age in which we live.

These remarks are made, with a hope that the subject may yet be re-considered; and in expressing himself thus, the writer conceives he has only performed what is due from him as a native of the county, as an inhabitant of the city, and as the author of a History of York,

SECTION V.

Streets and Public Buildings, ancient and modern, within WALMGATE-WARD; including a brief Historical Description of each, with occasional Observations.

LEAVING MICKLEGATE-WARD, already described, and passing over Ouse-Bridge, the stranger will enter WALMGATE-WARD, and will find himself in a street, called

LOW-OUSEGATE;

A name, probably derived from the steep descent to the bridge, which will be remedied, and from it's vicinity to the river. It is open, and contains several good houses; the principal one is a new erection on the left, near the bridge, and known by the name of

THE NEW BANK.

There are three Banking-Houses in York, of which this is the junior; having been opened but a few years ago. The *firm* is Godfrey Wentworth Wentworth, Robert Chaloner, Thomas Rish-

worth, and Co. They draw on Messrs. Wentworth and Co., No. 25, Threadneedle-Street, London ; and the hours of business are from nine in the morning, to four in the evening.

Nearly opposite this bank, and leading to the *Staiths*, or *Wharfs*, by the side of the Ouse, is a flight of steps, called

THE GRECIAN STEPS.

They are remarkable for a subterranean passage or recess, near the foot of them ; but the entrance is now walled up. Drake alludes to it very briefly, in the following remark : “ At the east end of Ouse-Bridge, is a place that must not be omitted in this work—it is a hole, which many believe to run underground, arched as far as the minster ; but for what reason I never could learn. Indeed, I never had an opportunity to examine into it myself ; and I had less curiosity to do so, after I found amongst the city records, this remark on it—*Salt-hole-greces* left open for mending the arches on Ouse-brigg.*”

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* “ *Greces*,” or “ *Grées*,” appears to be an old word which simply denotes steps, as we find in Bailey, the meaning of the word *Gree* is so explained ; and Shakspeare also uses “ *Greeze*” for a flight of steps.

A later antiquary, to whose manuscripts the author of this work has had access, has remarked freely on this apparent negligence of Mr. Drake, and adds: "I had some years ago the curiosity to go into it with a lantern and candle, determined, if possible, to see the end of it. The entrance was by a door which opened on the steps, and led through a short passage into a neat square room or chapel, the walls of which are of faced stone, and appear well built; but there is no light into it. What use this has originally been intended for, I cannot discover, but imagine it to have been a cell for some begging hermit, before the reformation. It is called, in the city records, *Salt-hole-grees*, and the door-stead is now walled up."

As the entrance is still closed, and the writer consequently can give only the testimony of others respecting this singular recess, he must here conclude, by remarking that the lower orders yet entertain an idea, that a subterranean passage extends hence to the minster. A little time may, however, determine the correctness of this idea, as the steps, and some of the buildings adjoining, will soon be removed to effect the improvements in contemplation at the bridge.

At the foot of the Grecian Steps, commences

THE KING'S STAITH,

A convenient strongly walled Quay or Wharf, for lading and unlading of goods. Being greatly out of repair, in 1774, it was raised, and also new paved. On the opposite side of the river, is

TOPHAM'S STAITH;

Erected in 1660, by Christopher Topham, then lord mayor, to which circumstance it owes it's name. It was repaired in 1676, enlarged in 1678, and several years afterward was rebuilt, for the use of the butter-factory; at which time, it's name was changed to *The Butter Staith*; but it is now almost destroyed and forgotten, and on this account, was omitted in the description of *Skeldergate*.

A little beyond the *King's Staith*, or *Wharf*, are

THE FRIARS' WALLS,

Which extend in front, nearly from the *For Water-Lane*, of which notice will be taken hereafter, to the *New Walk*; and one entrance to the latter is at the corner of these walls, by an iron palisade gate and stone gate-way, erected, as appears by an inscription over it, in the year 1732.

These walls are remarkable, as bounding part of the site of the extensive and celebrated monastery of the *Friars Minors*, of the order of St. Francis; formerly the occasional residence of the kings of England, and consequently the scene of many important events.

On the situation of this monastery, Mr. Drake, after considerable inquiry, seems to entertain a doubt; but even the information he received, when duly considered, clearly proves the Friars' Gardens to have been the site of that ancient edifice. The most important parts of his facts are as follow :

“ We are informed by historians, that the monastery of the Friars Minors was usually the residence of our former English kings, when they came to York; and, that it was noble and spacious, we are assured by Froisart, who tells us that Edward III. and his mother both lodged in it, when the fray happened betwixt the English soldiers and strangers; as related in this work. We find, by this historian, that the building was so convenient, that each of these royal guests, though attended with a numerous suit of quality, kept court *apart* in it; which must argue it a structure of very great extent and magnificence.

“ By a patent of Richard II., this affair of it's being made use of as a regal palace, is confirmed. That king strictly prohibits any persons from carrying of filth, or laying of dunghills, &c., in the *lanes or passages, leading to this monastery*; where, as the patent expresses, he himself, as well as his grandfather, used to inhabit. Also, butchers and other persons, are by the same prohibited from casting into, or washing in, the river Ouse, any entrails of beasts, or other nastynesses, to the prejudice or nuisance of this monastery.”

Drake admits that the last quotation here given, plainly proves the site of this monastery was on the banks of the river; and, that in a patent of Edward II. being a grant to the Friars, “ to purchase some houses contiguous to their monastery, for the enlargement of their courts, those houses and places are said to extend from the middle gate of the said monastery, near the chancel of their church, on the back, as far as a lane called *Mertergate*, and so descending towards the water of Ouse, to the west.”

The same author, however, supposed this conclusion to be contradicted by other letters patent, granted to these Friars, as high as Henry III., by which “ that prince, in his fifty-third year,

gave licence to the Friars Minors of York, to inclose a certain ditch, within the king's domain, but contiguous to their area by the east, lying betwixt the said area, or court, and *Baill-bridge*, for the enlargement of their said court."

Leland mentions that the *Augustine Friars* had a monastery, between the tower on "*Ouse-Ripe, and Ouse-Bridge;*" and Drake concludes it to have been situated within the present *Friar Walls*, although he acknowledges that the *Monasticon* does not notice any such establishment. He, however, unconsciously clears the subject by the following remark: "In one of the testamentary burials of Mr. Torre, Joan Trollop, anno 1441, leaves her body to be buried in the conventual church of the Friars *Eremites* of St. Augustine, in York. The term of *Eremites*, to this order, is what I have not before met with: the FRIARS MINORS were styled *Eremitae*, i. e. *Eremiticulae*. The *Eremites* or Hermits, in the north, were corruptly called *Cremitts*; and there is an annual rent paid out of some houses in Stonegate, called *Cremitt-Money*, at this day, which undoubtedly belonged to a religious house of these orders; for, some of the poorer sort of

monks being called *hermits*, an hermitage and an hospital had one and the same signification."

Hence we learn, beyond a doubt, that this was the site of the monastery of the *Friars Minors*, as before stated; and that the latter observation respecting the Augustine Friars, is but a mistake in terms and titles, both alluding to the same religious house. *Hertergate*, which seems to have confused Mr. Drake, has since been supposed to mean the *Far Water Lane*; and it is very evident that *Bail-bridge* is, by this term, distinguished from the *Old Bail*, which was built prior to the castle; *Bail-bridge* merely meaning the draw-bridge from the city to the present castle, or that connecting the latter with Clifford's Tower. This is rendered additionally clear, by the ditch which they had licence to inclose being within the king's domain, and consequently part of the liberties of the castle.

About seven years since, as some workmen were excavating a part of this ground, behind the house in Tower-Street, now occupied by W. Ellis, esq., they discovered thirteen skeletons, some of them placed two or three in depth, one over the other, and all laid in such a position, as clearly to demonstrate that the place had been a cemetery;

which is an additional confirmation of those grounds having been the site of this monastery. .

Were the preceding observations not sufficient to establish the fact, the writer could bring forward other materials ; for he has been favoured by Mrs. Peckitt, the present owner of a considerable part of the premises, with a sight of the ancient title deeds ; which decidedly prove that they have been not only the site of religious retirement and devotional duties, but also of kingly residence and of regal splendour.

In front of the walls, are the evident remains of a staith; originally belonging to this monastery, and which in some degree confirm the remark, that “ all the religious houses that laid towards the river, had each a quay or landing place of their own on it.” But the ground on which the monastery itself stood, is now chiefly converted into gardens.

In conclusion, we shall merely observe that in this monastery was a conventual church, dedicated to St. Mary ; and that the order of *Friars Minors* in England, is said to have been divided into seven custodies or wardships, of which this monastery was a principal one. Hence it had under it's jurisdiction, the friaries of Doncaster,

Scarborough, and Beverley; also Lincoln, Boston, and Grimsby, in Lincolnshire.

It is said that the friars of this order, were the first who opposed the marriage of the eighth Henry with Anne Bollen; and that consequently they ranked foremost amongst those who felt his avaricious grasp. Wm. Vavasour, doctor of divinity, prior or guardian of this fraternity, with fifteen friars and five novices, surrendered this house, Nov. 27th, in the 30th of Henry VIII.; and Dr. Tanner writes that in the 34th year of that king, the site was granted to Leonard Beckwith, of Selby.

Three narrow and dirty lanes, lead from the King's Staith to Castlegate. They are generally called the three *Water Lanes*; and on the right of the Far Water Lane, up a small alley, not far from *Friars' Walls*, is a

FREE SCHOOL,

Founded and endowed in 1799, by Mr. John Dodsworth, who also founded the one on Bishop-hill already described. The building is sufficiently large for the residence of the master in the upper apartments; and underneath them is the school room.

The endowment is *ten pounds* per annum for the education of twenty poor children: *ten* of whom must be residents in Castlegate; *five*, in Pavement and Peter-the-Little; and the other *five* in Spurriergate.

WATER LANES.

The *First Water-Lane* was formerly called *Carr-Gate*, and the *Second Water-Lane* was anciently known by the name of *Thrush-Lane*; but they neither of them are remarkable, except for being, as before observed, dirty and extremely narrow. *Far Water-Lane*, lately designated *Friar-Gate*, is however of more public interest; being the only carriage road to the King's Staith. As the greater part of this lane is even too narrow for two carts to pass each other, and as the entrance from Castlegate is very contracted, it would be a great public accommodation either to widen it, by taking down the houses on the north side, which are generally in bad repair, or to open a new road from the lower part of Low-Ousegate.

Near the entrance to the Far Water-Lane, are

THE FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSES.

It is stated in a manuscript, to which Drake alludes in his Eboracum, that prior to the year

1673, the Society of FRIENDS in York, held their meetings at the house of Edward Nightingale, an eminent grocer of that persuasion, in High-Ousegate: but in that year, a small Meeting-House was erected at the entrance of *Far Water Lane*. The society, however, having considerably increased, the old erection was enlarged nearly one-third, about twenty years ago, and rendered capable of containing between three and four hundred people.

In the same yard, and adjoining to the above, another building was erected, in 1718, large enough to accommodate from 800 to 1000 persons; intended chiefly for use at the Quarterly Meetings, which are held in York. This erection being found inconvenient in many respects, was nearly all taken down in 1816; when a memorandum was found between the wall and the wainscot of the gallery, which contained the date of it's erection, and the carpenter's name. It is remarkable, that though this memorandum had been deposited there nearly a century, it was perfect, and even the ink had scarcely changed it's colour.

An enlarged and more commodious erection was immediately commenced, and is just com-

pleted. It is capable of containing full 1200 persons. Several smaller apartments were either considerably improved, or added at the same time, giving the whole an appearance of a new building; and combining neatness and convenience, in a manner that reflects much credit on Messrs. Watson and Pritchett, the architects.

One of the new apartments, and which opens out of the principal Meeting-House, is for a small Library, designed to contain a general collection, lately presented to the Quarterly Meeting at York, of all works which have been published by the Society of Friends, or with their approbation; also of such as have been published in opposition to their principles; to which will be added, a few other books, principally on Theological subjects.

There is one advantage attending the main building, which it may be useful to mention. The *flue* that surrounds the centre of the interior, under the floor, for the purpose of conveying warm air in cold weather, is by a very trifling addition, calculated to admit a supply of cold air in summer; by which a free circulation is produced from the bottom; and the current ascending to the top, carries off the rarefied air through the

ventilators and windows, and thus renders the Meeting-House pleasant, and comparatively cool, even in the extreme of summer.

The entrance to those Meeting-Houses, is from

CASTLEGATE,

A narrow street, which, including Castle-Hill, leads from the end of Coppergate to the County Jail, or Castle of York. The first object of public interest here, is on the left or east side of the street, bordering on St. Mary's church-yard, and is called

THOMPSON'S HOSPITAL.

It is a neat small building, repaired and new fronted about three years ago, at which time, the following inscription was renewed over the entrance:

*" THIS HOSPITAL WAS FOUNDED BY SIR HENRY THOMPSON,
OF MIDDLETHORP, SOMETIME LORD MAYOR OF THIS CITY; AND
DAME ANNE, HIS WIFE; FOR THE RELIEF OF SIX POOR MEN.
ANNO CHRISTI. 1700."*

On searching the will of the said donor, which is dated August 24, 1692, the writer observed that he was a native of York, having been born in Coppergate; and that he had bequeathed two small houses to be converted into one dwelling, or hospital, for charitable purposes; to be sup-

ported out of the produce, or rents, of certain freehold and copyhold lands, which are situate near the Barracks, erected a few years since.

The income was to be disposed of, as expressed in the following extract—In the endowment of “An hospital for six poor men, who shall be paid yearly out of the said rents, *three pounds* each, at two payments in the year; or so much proportionably as the said rents amount clear to, deducting the necessary charges of keeping the said hospital in repair. The lord mayor, and three senior aldermen for the time being, to be supervisors and electors of the said six poor men, willing that choice be made of such inhabitants in the parish of St. Mary, in Castlegate, as are fit objects of charity; but, if enough such be not therein found, then at their discretion to choose elsewhere, still giving a preference to the said poor parishioners*.”

The subjects of this charity, have each of them two small rooms; and the lands have so much increased in value, that they now receive, from the

* The said donor also bequeathed twenty-six shillings per annum, for ever, to be distributed in bread at the adjoining church, to the value of sixpence per week.

original endowment, *ten pounds per annum* each, in half-yearly payments; and the property whence their income arises, being partly freehold, they have a right to vote for a coroner, and for representatives of the county in parliament. The inhabitants of this hospital, likewise have the privilege of being supplied with water gratis, from the Waterworks of the city.

In addition to the before-mentioned *ten pounds* per annum, the poor men at this hospital, have each an annuity from the interest of £200, left by Mr. John Girdler, a merchant of York, who died on the 25th of April, 1793. The principal is vested in the hands of the corporation of York; and one pound ten shillings, being paid yearly to them, from this source, their total annual income in money, is *eleven pounds and ten shillings*.

Adjoining this hospital, is the parish church of

ST. MARY, CASTLEGATE,

Called in ancient writings: "*Ecclesia sancte Marie ad portam Castri*." This church, consisting within of three aisles, is not a large building of the kind; but is adorned by a beautiful and very lofty spire. It was a rectory in Me-

dieties; one belonging to the patronage of the Percy family, earls of Northumberland; and the other to the prior and convent of Kirkham; but in the year 1400, they were united, and became the gift of the Percys solely.

Anciently there were four chantries founded in this church; but even the remembrance of them is now uninteresting. Here are several old monumental inscriptions, dated even so far back as the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; some of which are much defaced. *Thoresby*, in the appendix to his "*Ducatus Leodiensis*," observes that he had in his possession, a copper-plate, found in making a grave in this place of worship; which he says, "had been covertly conveyed and fastened on the inside of the coffin of a priest, who was executed for the plot of 1680." Upon the plate was inscribed:

"*R. D. Thomas Thweng de Heworth* collegii Anglo-Duaceni sacerdos, post 15. annos in Anglicana missione transactus Eboraci condemnatus, martyrio affectus est Oct. die 23, anno Dom. 1688. Duobus falsis testibus ob crimen conspirationis tunc temporis catholicis malitiose impositum.*"

Passing down this street, to within twenty-two yards of the gates or entrance to the court-yard

* A very ancient family at this village,

of the castle, the stranger will observe the arms of the city, cut in stone, and placed in the wall on each side of the street. They are thus placed, to mark the boundary of the city; and on the opening of the assizes, the sheriffs of York wait here to receive the judge, and accompany him to the Guildhall*.

* Mr. Drake, when writing on the subject, makes this observation: "It was not immaterial, that this mark of distinguishing the city's liberties from the county's, was here set up. I find the high-sheriffs have often laid claim to that part of the street, called Castle-Hill; and have made arrests thereon. A remarkable instance that I have met with in the city's oldest register, is as follows: Anno regni regis Henry V. ult. 1422, Henry Preston, lord mayor, was informed that Sir Halmatheus Mauleverer, then high-sheriff of the county, had come, in his proper person, to the house of one William Haseham, dwelling on Castle-Hill in this city, and had arrested one Agnes Farand, otherwise named Agnes Bercoats, commonly known to be the concubine of the rector of Wath; and had carried her prisoner into the castle. The mayor, much grieved at this presumption, sent messengers to the high-sheriff, to acquaint him that he had done contrary to the liberties and privileges of the city, in arresting Agnes in the said place, and required him to deliver her up. The high-sheriff answered peremptorily that he would not,

As the visiter is thus conducted to the precincts of the County Jail, it may not be an improper deviation, from the general plan of noticing first all within the walls, to introduce here

YORK CASTLE.

In addition to being arrived at the only entrance to this prison, it is, though extra parochial, in some measure connected with the parish we have just left; as the prisoners of every description, who die a natural death in the castle, are usually interred in the church-yard of St. Mary, in Castlegate, for which *one guinea* is charged on each occasion.

but would detain her prisoner, till he had certified the king and council of the fact. However, as the record adds, Sir William Harrington, lately high-sheriff, an honourable person, and a friend to both parties, hearing of it, being then in the castle, sent the mayor word, that if he would come down on the morrow, to the monastery of the Augustine friars, he would bring them together, and try to make a good end of this matter. At this meeting, the whole affair was talked over betwixt them, the result of which was, the high-sheriff gave up the lady, and commanded her to be conveyed to the place from whence she was taken."

In proceeding to give an historical and minute description of the castle, which is situated near the confluence of the Ouse and Foss, we must revert back to the early annals of our country; and doubtless, could take a retrospect so distant, that even in Roman history we might trace it's rise, and see it's original foundations laid by imperial command.

The well-known historian of this city, and it's principal antiquary, alludes to another castle, the site of which is yet called "*The Old Bayle*," as already described: "This therefore," says he, "I believe was built a *solo*, but probably on a Roman foundation, by William I., and made so strong, in order to keep the citizens and Northumbrians in awe; and to preserve his garrisons better than they were in the former. It continued to be in his successors' hands, the kings of England, and was the constant residence of high sheriffs of the county, during their sheriffalty, for some ages after." It is also here worthy of remark, that whilst the castle thus remained in the hands of the sovereign, it was used as a magazine, or storehouse, for his revenues in the north; and consequently there

was a constable of the castle appointed, whose duty was solely to attend to this department.

When at the summit of it's strength and greatness, this castle was entirely surrounded by the Foss; the moat of which may yet be clearly traced; the building being thus rendered inaccessible, except by two draw-bridges. The principal gate, or entrance from the county, was on the east side, near the "*Castle-Mills*;" and there was a smaller one from the city, on the north side.

The latter gate was rebuilt many years ago, and is now the only entrance. A small arch, under the walls in front of it, where the arms of the city are placed, yet shows the spot where the ancient draw-bridge was erected; whilst the bridge, gate, towers, and sallyport on the eastern side, have all been entirely cleared away.

The remains of the towers and the sallyport, were removed about twelve years ago; at which time, the moat on that side of the castle, which had formerly been supplied with water from the Foss, was filled up; and a wall was built, surmounted with iron palisades, in lieu of it. The *sallyport and towers*, however, presented a very interesting and picturesque ap-

pearance—a representation of them is therefore given below, as they stood at the period just mentioned.



To return to the castle itself, we must next remark, that in the reign of Richard the third, this fortress was found so much out of order, that it was considered requisite to very materially repair, and in part, to rebuild it. *Leland*, however, in the time of Henry the eighth, found it in a very ruinous condition, and observes: “The area of this castle is no very great quantity—ther be five ruinous tours in it.” And Sir Thomas Widdrington, in his manuscript, says: “That part of the castle which remains of the old foundation, appears to be only the gate-house to the old building, by the proportion of the

gates yet showing themselves on the east side, towards Fishergate-Postern, where the great door is walled up, and where the main building of the castle was, as is manifest by the foundations of walls all over the said place, if it be tried with the spade or hack."

Hence we learn, that the several erections which at present stand within the walls of the court-yard, are modern, and have been built at various times, though very possibly, some of them upon Roman foundations. It therefore becomes requisite we should enter the yard, in order to present an historical sketch of each.

The entrance is by folding doors and a porter's lodge, from Castlegate; and the walls are eleven hundred yards in circumference, inclosing a pleasant and open area of about one acre, with a large grass plot in the centre, and a gravel walk entirely round it. The whole of the buildings, the area, and outer walls, cover nearly four acres; but the present state of this prison, cannot be more correctly described, than by a quotation from the celebrated Dr. Smollett's "*Humphry Clinker*." That writer, after visiting York, about the year 1768, says: "The castle, which was heretofore a fortress, is now

converted into a prison, and *is the best in all respects, I ever saw, at home or abroad.* It stands on a high situation, extremely well ventilated ; and has a spacious area, within the walls, for the health and convenience of all the prisoners, except those whom it is necessary to secure in close confinement. Even these last have all the comforts that the nature of their situation can admit. Here also the assizes are held, in a range of buildings erected for that purpose."

The buildings are three in number, occupying three sides of the yard. The *Basilica, or County Hall*, stands on the right of the entrance. This part of the castle, built at the expense of the county, in 1673, and rebuilt by the same means in 1777, is a superb erection of the Ionic order, one hundred and fifty feet in length, and forty-five in breadth. The entrance into it, is by a portico of six columns, thirty feet in height; over which are placed the king's arms, an elegant statue of justice, and other emblematic figures. Here the business of various courts is transacted throughout the year, and the assizes for the county are held in March, and July or the beginning of August. For these occasions, there is a court at the south end, for the trial of criminal offenders; and, at the north end, is one for nisi

prius, or civil causes. The interior height of the walls is about thirty feet, and each court is nearly thirty feet square, being crowned with a dome, ten feet high, supported by twelve Corinthian columns. Each of them also is provided with the usual accommodations for gentlemen of the law, and other official characters; and with convenient galleries, for spectators.

Adjoining those courts are handsome rooms, fitted up for the use of the Grand and Petit Juries, the Council, &c.; and in the room occupied by the Grand Jury, is a small library of law books, and a manuscript list of all the High Sheriffs of Yorkshire, with the dates of the years in which they served the office, from William the Conqueror to the present time.

Near the Grand Jury's Room, is the place for the execution of criminals, where a temporary scaffolding is erected for the purpose. Felons condemned to die, having formerly undergone the sentence of the law at *Tyburn*, out of Micklegate-Bar, the present place of execution is called the *New Drop*. It was prepared in 1802, and on the 28th of August, that year, was first used for the awful sacrifice of human life to offended laws.

Behind the Grand Jury's Room, the remains of a Roman wall were discovered, in 1805 or 1806, by workmen who were preparing to erect the wall which now meets the eye of the observer, and which was built upon this old foundation. A block of free stone, inscribed "*Ætistatt*," in Norman characters, was also found at the same time, whilst the men were digging a drain. It was supposed to have been a boundary stone, placed there in the reign of William the Conqueror; and it may now be seen in the cathedral, where it was immediately deposited, amongst the monuments.

The second building which claims our attention, is nearly opposite to the entrance into the yard; and is the prison for debtors and felons, comprising also the governor's apartments and the chapel. It has two projecting wings, which, with iron palisades in front, form an airing yard for the felons. A handsome turret surmounts the centre of the edifice; with a clock and bell. The ancient towers of the old castle which stood on the site of this building, became a *county prison* after it was dismantled of a garrison; but being very ruinous, they were taken down in 1701; and the present noble edifice was immediately commenced, though not completed till

the year 1705. The expense of the whole was defrayed by a tax of *threepence* in the pound, on all lands, &c., in the county of York, levied by the authority of an act of parliament.

The RIGHT WING of this building, is occupied by debtors and the governor. The entrance is by a double flight of stone steps, on the top of which is a door that leads into a long passage. The first door in this passage, on the right, opens into the governor's sitting room ; and the under jailer occupies the room on the left. In this latter room, is a large closet or recess, in which the deadly weapons, heavy chains, &c., of the most notorious offenders, are exhibited. On this floor, besides the jailers' rooms, are eight others for debtors, each sixteen feet square, by twelve feet high ; and above those, are twelve rooms for common-side debtors, which are all free wards, airy and wholesome, the passage being through lofty and spacious galleries.

On the ground floor of this wing, are the kitchens and other offices of Mr. Wm. Staveley, the governor ; who has a stated salary of seven hundred pounds per annum, besides the fees for prisoners, which are very considerable. Those for felons and crown prisoners as formerly, are

still continued, and now paid out of the county rates. He is also allowed *one shilling* per mile, for the conveyance of all prisoners.

The fees for debtors, were very lately, on going into the jail, *three shillings and fourpence*—on discharge, *eight shillings and eightpence*; besides which, the under-sheriff demands from each debtor *five shillings and fourpence*, if discharged by the plaintiff; but if by supersedeas, *seven shillings and eightpence*. Every debtor is also obliged to give a bushel of coals and a bag of turf, to the room which he inhabits. The county does not provide the debtors with either bedstead, bedding, or even straw; and the debtor who has a room to himself, pays for bedding and furniture, *threepence* per day—if a single bed amongst other debtors, *twopence* per day—and, if two sleep in the same bed, *one penny* each.

Adjoining the right wing, are the *felons' apartments*, with the court-yard in front, already mentioned as formed by the two wings. The dimensions of the yard are fifty-four feet by forty-five, and into it, is a descent of five steps. It is separated from the general area, by a double row of iron palisades, inclosing a sufficient space between them, to prevent all communications with strangers.

This precaution is but of modern institution, and was occasioned by repeated attempts of the felons and others to escape. On Tuesday, October 27th, 1761, one of those attempts was made by 121 French prisoners, who were then confined in the castle. Some of them cut away the iron bars of the windows, during the night ; and before any discovery, twenty of them escaped over the walls, by means of a rope, and though six were afterwards secured, the remaining fourteen were never more heard of.

A still more serious occurrence of the same kind, took place on Tuesday the 9th of April, 1765. About seven o'clock in the evening, whilst the under-jailer and turnkey were locking the felons in their cells, they were seized by the latter, and after much struggling, the felons succeeded in forcing them into a cell, in taking the keys from them, and in securing them there. They then hastened to the porter's lodge, demanded the keys of the outer gates from the porter, and, on his refusal, knocked him down, and treated him in a very brutal manner. Mr. Wharton, the governor, was also secured by the felons ; but an alarm being given to the debtors, they rescued him, and proceeded to the lodge, which had been

entered by three of the felons, who had fastened the doors, and were scuffling with the porter and his wife for the keys. One of the debtors, however, entered by the window, and the felons then opened the doors, and retreated within the grates, where they were all secured. The under-jailer's leg was broken, and many of the parties were severely bruised. The debtors, who thus prevented the escape of about twenty desperate villains, were rewarded by a general subscription in the city. Several other, though less important attempts have also been made, even so late as within the last few years.

The day room for men felons, is twenty-four feet by about fifteen, and contains a fire-place. There are two galleries in proceeding from this room, in which are nineteen sleeping cells, well ventilated, nearly six feet square, with lofty arched roofs, and floors of oak wood. A passage leads out of the felons' court-yard to the chapel, and contains eight airy and dry sleeping cells, nine feet long by six feet broad; and another passage from the yard, also contains five sleeping cells. There are two solitary cells, and three condemned cells: one room entirely devoted to condemned prisoners, is called "*Pompey's Par-*

low ;" it is eighteen feet square, is sufficiently light to enable it's miserable inhabitants to read; and possesses a convenient fire-place. Every cell in this building, is provided by the county, with an iron bedstead, a flock bed, and rugs; on each of which beds, two felons generally sleep.

At the west end of the jail, is a small semi-circular court-yard, with a day-room, for transports. They are capable of accommodating twenty prisoners. The allowance to the felons, is, as follows: Criminals for trial, have every morning a loaf of fair wheaten bread, weighing a pound and a half; and they have also *sixpence* paid to them every Saturday, to purchase potatoes, or any other article of food. Transports convicted at the castle of York, have the king's allowance of *half-a-crown* per week—one *shilling* of which is given in bread, and *eighteenpence* in money; but transports from any of the Quarter Sessions have only *two shillings* per week, viz.: half in bread, and the other half in money, contributed by that Riding of the county from which they were committed. Every person who enters this jail as a prisoner, in a ragged or dirty condition, is immediately washed clean, and is provided by the county with decent clothing.

The prisoners are all well supplied with hard and soft water ; and the *clerk to the magistrates* regulates the weight of the prisoners' bread, which is delivered to them in *ninepenny* loaves. This office was lately occupied by Mr. John Watson, deceased, whose salary was twenty guineas per annum ; but the present clerk to the justices is David Russell, esquire, and the salary has been very considerably augmented.

The CHAPEL, which is in the LEFT WING, next deserves our attention. The ascent to it is by a handsome double flight of stone steps, which are uniform with those of the *right wing* ; and the chapel, which is well calculated for the purpose of religious worship, is so constructed, that each prisoner knows his own proper seat. The women sit upon forms in the area, and in front of the pulpit. The convicts, felons for trial, and prisoners for misdemeanours, nearly encircle the chapel, on seats close to the wall ; and there is a gallery, which is occupied by the keepers, by debtors, and by occasional visitors. A seat opposite to that of the keepers, is devoted to those prisoners who are under sentence of death. The office of clerk is performed by one of the debtors, who receives a recompense of *sixpence* per week from the dean and chapter.

The clergymen who attend this chapel, are the Rev. William Richardson, and the Rev. George Brown. The latter reads prayers on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday mornings; and also reads prayers and a sermon on the morning of Sunday, all the year round. He likewise attends, twice a day, the criminals ordered to suffer death. For this, Mr. B. formerly received a trifling salary, and one guinea each for all convicts left for execution; but that custom has been abolished, and his income does not now depend upon the number of criminals; for he has at present, from the county, a certain salary of one hundred pounds per annum.

Mr. Richardson reads prayers and a sermon, every Thursday morning. The sacrament is also administered thrice in the year. The salary which Mr. R. receives, is £23 15s. 0d.; being a legacy left for this purpose, in 1634; and as the writing of endowment is a very remarkable one, an extract from it is here given:

"16th January," (1634) "10th Charles I. *Phineas Hodgson*, D. D. chapellor of the cathedral church of York, by his deed of that date, after expressing his desire, out of his commiseration and pity to the souls of such prisoners as then were, or should be in the castle of York, to provide that they, for ever afterwards, might be instructed in the knowledge of God, to their eternal bliss and happiness, which he hoped would be, by providing some godly minister or

preacher of God's word, to preach unto them in the said castle, which by reason of their imprisonment, they were hindered elsewhere to hear; and in regard that *Richard* (Neile) "then late archbishop of York, did licence, or allow, that godly preachers for ever thereafter, might be allowed to preach there, to that purpose; although there was no church or chapel: Grants to John Scott, D. D. the then dean, and to George Stanhope, D. D., and Henry Wickham, D. D. prebend residentiaries of the cathedral of York, a yearly rent-charge of *thirty pounds*, issuing out of a messuage at Bampton, alias Benton-upon-the-Woulds, in the county of York; and also out of the chapel and tithes of Bampton, alias Benton and Newham, (parcel of the possessions of the late monastery at Bridlington) and all the lands and tenements of the Grantor, in Bampton, alias Benton and Newham; payable half-yearly, at Whitsuntide and Martinmas, at *Hasty's Tomb*, in the cathedral church of York, with the usual clauses of *nomine penæ*, and distress on default of payment. In trust, to pay *twenty-five pounds* per annum, parcel of the said *thirty pounds*, to such minister or preacher of God's word, according to the true religion then established in the church of England, as should be nominated and appointed by the Grantor; and after his death, by the dean and chapter of the cathedral of York, to preach weekly, in the castle of York, to the prisoners there for the time being; such minister preaching there once every week throughout the year, except only in the assize weeks, and at such times, by reason of any infection, or otherwise, as he shall be dispensed with by the Grantor, during his life, or the dean and chapter after his death. And to the intent that *five pounds*, residue of the *thirty pounds*, should be distributed weekly, by *two shillings* a week, in bread, amongst the poorer sort of the prisoners upon the sermon days, to such of them as should be present at the said sermons: hoping and desiring that some others would attend to this pious and charitable work; and in time increase the allowance and stipend; and that the work might be acceptable to God, and profitable and comfortable to many distressed and poor souls."

Thus it appears the rent-charge on the property devoted to this purpose, is £30 per annum, out of which, the deduction of five pounds, to en-

courage the prisoners to attend the religious service, leaves but £25. The land-tax on this sum, is twenty-five shillings; and hence the receipt of the chaplain, as before stated, is but £23 15s. 0d. per annum. Several other charitable donations and contributions have, at various times, been given, to purchase bread, coals, &c., for the prisoners; but they are trifling, and therefore are scarcely worth enumeration.

The only building which now remains to be noticed, is the one on the left of the entrance. The approach to it is by a flight of five stone steps, leading to four Ionic pillars, twenty-six feet six inches in height, supporting a portico, similar in appearance to that of the court-house on the opposite side of the area. This building was erected in the year 1780*, to supply several

* On Saturday the eighth of July in this year (1780) as some men were clearing away a quantity of rubbish behind the court-house, they found a human skeleton, laid about a yard distant from the wall, with the leg-bones inclosed with *double irons*. The intelligent reader may recollect that Eugene Aram, who was tried on the third of August, 1759, for the murder of Daniel Clark, alluded, in his admirably ingenious defence, to the sudden and unaccountable disappearance, in June, 1757, of a

accommodations, which were thought requisite by the county magistrates; but considerable additions were made to it in 1803, under the direction of Mr. Atkinson, the architect. The whole now extends in length one hundred and fifty feet; and the wing next the porter's lodge, contains on the ground floor, offices for the clerk of assize, for the depositing of records, &c.; behind which there is a day-room, twenty-four feet by fifteen, for prisoners charged with misdemeanours. In it is a fire-place, with benches, &c.; and the room is well lighted, and opens into a court-yard, forty feet wide by twenty-four in depth. There are also four sleeping cells on the ground floor of this wing. The first and second stories of it have each a day-room, with sleeping cells and accommodations as below.

felon named William Thompson. It is now fully believed that this was the skeleton of Thompson; and that in attempting to escape, he had got upon the top of the old court-house, by the assistance of a ladder which stood there, and in the descent, had either been killed with the fall, or had so seriously injured himself, as to linger out a protracted and most miserable existence. Either supposition is probable, for as nothing but nettles and high weeds grew on the ground where he fell, it was seldom or never resorted to by human beings.

The other wing of the building is generally appropriated to *female felons*. The day-room on the ground floor here, is also conveniently fitted up, and opens into a spacious yard, containing a wash-house and other requisites. There are likewise six sleeping cells, the smallest of which is twelve feet long by ten broad. On the first story is a day-room, with the same number of cells, and a flight of stone steps leading from the day-room, into a court-yard, fifty feet by twenty-seven.

On the second or attic story, are two rooms with a warm and cold bath, an adjoining dressing-room, and patent water-closets, used entirely for the sick ; and consequently to be considered as constituting the *Infirmary* or *Hospital* of the castle. Mr. Champney regularly attends as the surgeon, and there not being any stated salary, he is allowed to charge for his attendance and medicines. The roof of this part of the building is flat, and covered with lead, to the extent of forty-five feet by twenty-five ; and is so constructed for the purpose of admitting convalescents to take the air ; the edge being secured by iron palisades, five feet in height. All the prisoners in this wing have flock beds, blankets,

rugs, and wooden bedsteads; the latter of which are intended shortly to be substituted by iron ones, the same as in the other part of the castle.

In the centre and some other parts of this building, the debtors are confined during the period when the assizes or any public meetings are holding within the walls; though at all other times, they have full liberty to enjoy the fine air and exercise which the open area of the castle is abundantly capable of affording.

In viewing the stones that form the walls of the castle, marks of fire are seen on many of them; and Mr. Drake observes that large quantities of stone, of this description, were brought to York from the ruins of *Isurium*.

There is no employment provided by the county for persons in this prison; but Mr. Staveley is very active in procuring it for shoemakers, weavers, wool-combers, tailors, and other men accustomed to similar employments; and when work of this kind cannot be met with, the prisoners are taught to make laces, garters, purses, &c., which articles they expose for sale in the castle-yard, and thereby render themselves more comfortable than they otherwise would be, under the unhappy circumstances of their confinement.

Mr. Howard, the celebrated philanthropist, who will ever shine in the page of history, as an ornament to human nature, visited most of the prisons in Europe, with the god-like intention of courting the acquaintance of the distressed, in order to relieve their sufferings. This great man arrived in York, in the August race-week of 1787, on his return from the north; and during his stay here, visited the castle. The opinion of such a man is of much importance; and though this jail was not then in so admirable a state as at present, he bestowed many handsome encomiums upon it; and frankly declared, after all his experience, that this was the best-regulated prison he had ever seen.

The author cannot close this account, without acknowledging the obligation he is under to it's governor, and also to Jonathan Gray, esquire, of this city, for their polite assistance whilst he was collecting the information here communicated.

It is highly gratifying to be able to report so favorably of this excellent prison, which is the receptacle for malefactors and debtors of one of the most extensive, and most populous counties in the kingdom; yet, it might betray some want

of candour, or an ignorance of passing events, not to admit, that the exertions of the benevolent Howard have excited improvements in some other prisons, which render them superior even to York castle. Amongst these, it is but justice to enumerate the prisons at New-York and Philadelphia, in North America; the *Maison de Force*, at Ghent, in Flanders; also Warwick jail, and the Penitentiary, near the Metropolis, in our own country.

One among the leading features which constitute the superiority of most of these places of confinement, is provision for the employment of all classes, under regulations, which have a natural tendency to induce habits of order and industry, and that without resorting to any degrading punishment. This is no visionary scheme—no theoretical opinion; it has been reduced to practice; and the happiest results have succeeded. Contrary to the customary experience of our jails, prisoners have been liberated under indubitable evidence of being *reformed*—and even with *characters retrieved*; and what is still more, without any inducement to return to their former vices. Regular accounts are kept of all earnings and expenses; and at Ghent, *one-third*—at Philadelphia, *one-half*, of the over-

plus or profit is reserved for the prisoner, and paid to him when he is discharged ; so that by this means, he is enriched with the knowledge of a trade, and also with a little fund, the produce of his own industry, to guard him from the temptations of extreme poverty, and to shield him from the desperation of despair.

In the *Maison de Force*, at Ghent, nothing like fetters, or chains, are seen throughout the whole of the prison. These arrangements, it must be allowed, are admirably calculated to produce that reformation of manners, and that strict morality, which should be the great objects designed by the institution of all laws, in the moral government of the world.

The benefits resulting from the system of jurisprudence connected with some of these prisons, may be painted even in more glowing colours ; for more than one instance has resulted from their codes of regulations, in which the advantages of reform from criminal vices, have appeared in culprits, who would otherwise have been consigned to an untimely death, by the hand of the executioner, as is too often the case in our own country. What heart that can “ feel another’s wo,” but must rejoice at such an event!!!

Various are the wise regulations which have been adopted, to produce these corresponding benefits; but, for further particulars, the reader must be referred to several small pamphlets, lately printed, containing separate accounts of the prisons already mentioned; and which are worthy the perusal of magistrates, and of all other persons, who are concerned in the management of prisons*.

Nearly adjoining to the castle, is a high mount, evidently thrown up with prodigious labour, on which stand the remains of a circular building, called

CLIFFORD'S TOWER.

This mount and ruin, which are a great ornament to the city, exactly correspond with *Bail-Hill*, on the opposite side of the river. Drake supposes that the mound on which the ruins of the "keep of the castle" are now seen, was cast up by the Romans; and that a tower was standing on it during their residence in this city,

* They may be procured of the publisher of this work, Mr. Alexander, Bookseller, Castlegate, York; who constantly keeps a collection of books and tracts on benevolent and philanthropic subjects.

though it might be rebuilt by the Conqueror. And Dr. King, in his "*Munimenta Antiqua*," supposes that this tower was one of the castles mentioned in "*Stow's Annals*," as built by William the Conqueror, in 1068. The doctor, in confirmation of his opinion also says: "for *Norman castles* were built on high artificial mounds, and nearly covered the whole area of the summit. The castles built by the Saxons, were on high mounds, or ancient barrows, and had a great plain or area surrounding them."

It has already been observed, that the old fortress, the site of which is occupied by the present prison, was formerly encompassed with a moat, supplied with water from the river Foss. It is also equally certain, that *Clifford's Tower* was surrounded in the same manner; and it appears that though it was the *keep* of the castle, it was totally distinct; the moat having completely separated them. The entrance to the tower, however, was from the castle, by means of a draw-bridge, and a flight of steps on the side of the mount. These steps were remaining till within the last few years, when they were removed to repair the wall near the spot. The

place which they occupied, is yet clearly marked by a row of hazel nut-trees on each side of it.

Opposite to the site of these steps, are the evident remains of a door-way, in the old wall of the castle-yard, now walled up. The bottom of this door-way being about three feet above the present level of the castle-yard, the writer was induced to inquire the cause; and was informed that the ground on that side has, within the last half-century, been lowered equal to such a difference. The arch of this doorway, on the inner side, next the tower, has lately been tastefully converted into an arbour, adorned with mantling ivy; and in front of it is a gravel walk, shaded by the luxuriant foliage of hanging trees and shrubs, and ornamented with two stone pedestals, each with a small figure placed upon it.

This fortress derived it's name from the circumstance of one of the noble family of Clifford having been appointed the first governor of it by the Conqueror; and *Sir Thos. Widdrington* remarks, that the lords Clifford were very anciently called *Casteleyns, Wardens, or Keepers* of the tower. This family have repeatedly claimed a right of carrying the city's sword before the king, when he visited York; but the ground

of it appears to be unaccountable ; as the lord mayor certainly cannot have any superior within the walls of the city, except the king himself, or the presumptive heir to the British crown.

The tower, draw-bridge, &c., having fallen very much into decay, it was found requisite for them to undergo a complete repair, at the commencement of the civil wars of Charles the first. Of this improvement, Drake speaks in the following terms: “ By the direction of Henry, then earl of Cumberland, lord-lieutenant of the northern parts, and governor of York, this tower was repaired ; a considerable additional square building put to it, on that side next the castle, on which, over the gate, in stone work, are placed the royal arms, and those of the *Cliffords*, viz.: chequée and a fess, ensigned with an earl’s coronet, supported by two wiverns, with this motto—*Désormais.*” This tower was strengthened with a draw-bridge, deep moat, and palisades ; and on the top was constructed a platform, on which were mounted, two demy culverins and a saker. A garrison was also appointed to defend it.

Sir Francis Cobb, colonel, was made governor ; who, with his lieutenant-colonel, major, and captains, had their lodgings there, during

the siege of York, anno 1644. After the surrender of the city, to the parliament's generals, York was dismantled of all it's garrison, except this tower; of which *Thomas Dickenson*, then lord mayor, was made governor,

In confirmation of this fortress being continued a garrison, the writer finds the following record on the Journals of the House of Commons, dated February 26, 1646: "Resolved that Clifford's Tower (York) be kept a garrison with *three score foot* in it." We are also informed that in 1660, it was guarded by eleven pieces of ordnance, one gunner, one mate, and two *matrosses*.

On the restoration of Charles the second, the government of this tower was confided to Sir John Beresby, anno 1683. It was, however, *blown up* the following year; and the circumstance is thus related, in an old manuscript diary of those times, to which the author has had access: "About ten o'clock on the night of St. George's day, April 23d, 1684, happened a most dreadful fire within the tower called Clifford's Tower, which consumed to ashes all the interior thereof, leaving standing only the out-shell of the walls of the tower; without other

harm to the city, save one man slain by the fall of a piece of timber, blown up by the force of the flames, or rather by some powder therein. It was generally thought a *wilful* act, the soldiers not suffering the citizens to enter till it was too late; and what made it more suspicious was, that the gunner had got out all his goods before it was discovered." That this tower was intentionally destroyed, is very probable, not only from the circumstances just enumerated, but also from this garrison being highly offensive to the citizens; who so decidedly evinced their opinion, as commonly to give, "*The demolishing of the minced pie,*" at that time, as a toast, in the city.

Prior to this tower being blown up, it's appearance was as represented in the small wood engraving below,



Having now finished the history, we must next give a description of it's present state.

The entrance is through the modern square tower, mentioned by Drake; and over the door are the Clifford's arms, already described. On the left of the entrance, are the remains of a winding staircase, formerly leading to a *chapel*, that will be noticed hereafter. Beyond this staircase was the original entrance, of which the remains of a ruined archway may still be seen. Within these ruins, is yet standing a small Gothic arch; and near it may be traced the grooves of a port-cullis, and other requisites for security.

Entering the area of the ground floor, a feeling of veneration strikes the mind, whilst the wild and sublime songs of Ossian, which describe the effects of time, as evinced in the ivy-bound wall and the falling tower, are brought to our remembrance by the surrounding scene; and thus is roused within us that association of ideas, united with tender sensibility, which has been elegantly termed a pleasing melancholy. The ground, long traversed by warriors of old, and the scene of former revelry, surrounded by all the pomp and pride of war, is now covered with the green carpet of nature, formed of luxuriant weeds and shrubs; from the midst of which, a large and beautiful walnut tree, rears it's majestic head,

whose spreading branches not only supply a shade below, but rising above the lofty walls of the tower, contribute additional beauty to the venerable ruin.

To the right of the entrance is a winding stone staircase; and there are in different parts, the evident remains of several more, which led to the upper stories. Near this staircase, is a deep draw-well of excellent water, which Drake says was "choaked up," at the time when he wrote, but which is now open, and is not less than fifty or sixty feet in depth. It has a wooden frame round the top, and a roller for drawing water, but no rope; here is also a stone cistern, that has been termed a coffin, but which evinces no appearance of being designed for that purpose.

Proceeding round the interior of the ground floor, several recesses will be observed in the wall, which have been designed for various purposes, at present unknown. The writer just alluded to has likewise remarked, that "here was also a dungeon so dark, as not to admit a ray of light." In what part this dungeon was, or whether there really ever was any such thing connected with this building, is at present very doubtful, there not being any visible remains either of a dungeon, or of the entrance to one. It is certainly

probable that there might be a place of this kind; and it is true, that a fruitful imagination is ever ready to picture a dungeon as the natural accompaniment of a fortified tower, whilst conjecture will as naturally place it in the hill on which the ruin stands; but the mind that quits the path of reasonable certainty, to pursue the phantoms which flutter in the wilderness of luxuriant imagination, will find it has entered on an endless employment, and has embarked on a boundless ocean.

Quitting the ground floor, the walls of which are ten feet thick, and ascending by a flight of stone steps on the left, within the original entrance, the stranger will soon arrive at a small room in the square modern tower; over which, a yet more modern tiled roof still remains. This room was formerly used as a chapel, but has since been converted into a pigeon-cote by some person, whose want of taste has suffered the ancient Gothic arches and windows of the chapel, to be defaced or nearly hid, by the erection of ponderous brick pigeon holes, for the accommodation of those domesticated birds.

Ascending the same staircase, a few steps higher, a door-way will be observed, which formerly was the entrance to the first story of the

most ancient part of the tower. This is evident by marks in the walls, where the beams rested which once supported the floor; and more particularly, by the remains of recesses in various parts of the walls on the same level. One of those, is still nearly entire; and the writer having with much difficulty climbed into it, is able to give a minute description of the interior.

It is nearly opposite the entrance to the tower, is about six feet square, and nine feet in height; and has had two doors, one at each side, with a window or open niche towards the city. There are yet remaining narrow shelves of oak wood, which leave no doubt of it's being originally designed as a *store-room*; though it seems, in modern times, to have been used as a dove-cote, or to have been frequented by the birds of night.

Returning to the steps which lead to the first story, and proceeding thence to the top of the tower, the wall is sufficiently broad to walk upon, all round, to the opposite side of the square tower. From this eminence, the eye will be gratified with most interesting scenery. Whilst the city, with it's public buildings, and the fields beyond it, present themselves on one side; the diversified prospects on the

other, embrace the rivers Ouse and Foss, winding near the New Walk, whose fine row of trees, gives additional interest to the scene. Immediately below, the county prison and yard appear to the best advantage; and the distant landscape is enriched by country seats and other interesting objects, within a space which the eye can contemplate with ease, though bounded by the lofty Wolds. Though this view is not so extensive as that from the cathedral; yet the eminence not being so high, the objects which it presents, are discerned with more pleasing effect.

Descending by a flight of winding steps, at the opposite side of the entrance to the one mentioned in the ascent, and proceeding to the exterior of the tower, the stranger will be gratified with a neat and broad grass lawn, forming a walk round the foot of the building. In passing round, will be seen a very curious specimen of ancient architecture, supposed to have been a stall, brought from one of the dilapidated churches in the city. It was placed here as a garden chair. Besides being fluted, and otherwise singularly carved, it has a curiously ornamented canopy. The weather, however, seems to have had great effect upon it; and this relic of ancient times lately fell, in shattered fragments; though with so

little injury, that it may be re-erected without much expense.

The sides of the artificial mount, on which the building stands, are planted with trees and shrubs; and the moat which formerly surrounded it, is now so filled up, that the entire space, about three acres, forms one garden; which is tastefully laid out, and kept in excellent order.

The whole property is held, with other lands near the city, by grant from James the first, to *Babington and Duffield*; and the words of the grant are “*totam illam peciam terrae nostram scituat. jacent. et existent. in civit. nost. Ebor. vocat. Clifford's Tower.*” The present owner is Samuel Wilks Waud, esquire, of Camblesforth, near Selby; and it is now occupied by Mrs. Worsley, relict of the Rev. — Worsley, of Stonegrave, in this county; who politely allows her servant to show the ruin to strangers.

On the north side of the tower is a street, leading from Castlegate to the Postern, and which was formerly called “*Castlegate-Postern-Lane,*” but having within a few years been much improved, it is now termed

TOWER-STREET.

It is bordering on the site of the Augustine Priory, already described. Before the last im-

provements, there was a row of buildings, on the side next the tower, and also a rope-walk, between the street and the moat which encompassed the hill; but the latter has been filled up, and the rope-walk and buildings having been removed, there now is only a plain wall, erected to inclose and protect the premises.

The upper part of Tower-Street, near Castle-gate, being quite open to the meridian sun, whose rays are reflected from the white walls of the tower to the opposite side of this street; the heat, on a summer's day, is so intense, between the hours of one and three, that the causeway, under the wall, has thence been termed "*The York West Indies.*"

Returning up Castlegate, to Neassgate, the stranger will pass by the end of

COPPERGATE.

This street, which is very confined, leads from Castlegate to Pavement. It contains two Common Carriers' Warehouses, whence goods are conveyed to most parts of the kingdom, and which are more particularly described under the general head of "Coaches and Carriers."

In this street, one of the *York Newspapers*, of which there are three, is published. It is en-

itled "*The York Chronicle*," and was first commenced by Mr. C. Etherington, a bookseller, in York, on Friday, Dec. 18, 1772; being then a quarto, containing four leaves. It continued to be published on Fridays, from that time till the establishment of Mail Coaches, during which period, the proprietor was obliged every week to send an express for intelligence, to Grantham; but after this national convenience was established, the day of publication was changed to *Thursday*, which still continues. The original proprietor, through an act of indiscretion, becoming a bankrupt, this paper, which has always been in the Tory interest, fell into other hands. It was soon altered from quarto to four pages folio; and it is now, and has long been, the sole property of Mr. William Blanchard, a very respectable native of the city.

There is also in Coppergate, a good inn, called "*The White Horse*;" where will be found comfortable accommodations.

NESSGATE,

Derives it's name from the Saxon—the word *Ness* implying a projection, or an exalted situation. It is observable that this street, which is very

short, and leads from Castlegate to High-Ousegate and Low-Ousegate, corresponds in name and situation, as it stands on rising ground. It was formerly so very narrow, that two carriages could not pass each other in it; but a general subscription amongst the citizens was raised, in 1767, for the purpose of improving it. The sum thus collected was so great, as to enable the subscribers to take down all the houses on the north-east side, and to rebuild them several feet further back; by which the street was rendered open and convenient.

SPURRIERGATE,

Is situate opposite Nessgate, and extends to the entrance into Jubbergate. It adjoins Coney-Street, and owes its present name to the circumstance of having been formerly inhabited by *Spurriers*. It however appears, by the Churchwardens' books belonging to St. Michael's parish, that more than two hundred years ago, it was called "*Little Coney-Street*." At that period, it must have been only a narrow dirty lane; for we find that in 1769, half of the houses near the entrance from Ousegate, on the north-east side, were taken down, and rebuilt so far back,

as to make the street twice it's original width ; the expense of this improvement was likewise defrayed by a general subscription, to which the directors of the assembly-rooms contributed £370.

At the corner of this street, and facing Low-Ousegate, stands the old church of St. Michael, an ancient rectory, given by William the Conqueror to St. Mary's Abbey, under the patronage of which religious house, it remained till the dissolution. It does not contain any monumental inscriptions of particular interest, but has a very antique appearance. The west end is almost wholly built with grit stone, comprising some blocks of a very large size.

There is a foot road or passage, called "*St. Michael's Lane*," leading from Spurriergate, half round this church, into Low-Ousegate ; and the houses which formerly stood near the corner, from the great number of bones dug up here, at various times, seem to have been built on part of the ancient church-yard. In 1735, a large house at the corner, next to the church, was taken down and rebuilt, to improve the entrance into the street ; and was occupied as a banking-house by Messrs. Raper, Swann, and Co., till within five or six

years, when the whole row, on this side the street, was taken down, to make room for the improvements contemplated in the erection of the New Bridge.

Previous to the first of these alterations, such were the projections of the houses, in every story, that from the upper windows, it is said, two persons, in opposite dwellings, might shake hands across the street.

Returning up Spurriergate, the stranger will enter

HIGH-OUSEGATE.

This is a well built and open street; and on the left, nearly opposite the church of All-Saints, is the old established banking-house of *Wilson, Tweedy, and Wilson*. They draw on Messrs. Sir Wm. Curtis, Robarts, and Curtis, No. 15, Lombard-Street, London; and their usual hours of business are the same as the other houses, from nine in the morning to four in the evening.

Two narrow lanes or alleys, one of which is called "*Pope's-Head-Alley*," lead from High-Ousegate, to a street generally termed

PETER-LANE LITTLE:

It is extremely confined, and very short, ending at Jubbergate, which not being in Walmgate-

Ward, must at present be passed by. Peter-Lane is so called, from a church having formerly stood on the east side of it, dedicated to St. Peter; and for the sake of distinction, called "*Ecclesia S. Petri Parva*," or St. Peters' the Little. It was an ancient rectory, under the patronage of the prior and convent of Durham; but having fallen a sacrifice to the destructive events which, at various times, have laid waste this city; the church, together with the parish and all appurtenances, was united to All-Saints, in the Pavement, in the year 1585.

There formerly was a lane, near the middle of this street, which ran into the *Great Shambles*; but, says a late writer, "it was stopped up, about the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth; and, on the 29th of January, the sixteenth of Elizabeth, by order of the mayor and commonalty, it was divided into parcels, for twelve tenements adjoining it, the occupiers whereof, were to pay each a small yearly rent for ever, to the corporation, and keep it clear of filth, &c."

PAVEMENT,

Adjoins High-Ousegate, in a direct line; and is in general, a well built, pleasant, and airy street.

Whence it derived the name, is doubtful ; but we may, with some degree of certainty, consider it a token of the ancient and original superiority of this street, over others of the city ; for to designate one street "*The Pavement*," must naturally imply that the others were not paved at the time this name was given ; and we do not find that it has borne any other, for time immemorial,

In the open area of this street, a market is held for the sale of all sorts of grain, wild fowls, sea-fish, poultry, butter, eggs, herbs, and various other articles. The corn market is well supplied, and is an excellent one for oats in particular, great quantities being brought from all the neighbouring towns and villages. The inspector of the corn market, ascertains the average prices of grain sold each week, of which he presents a statement to the lord mayor, and his lordship is thereby enabled to regulate the price of bread in the city. For forwarding a similar account to the general corn-inspector in London, the officer at York receives five shillings each letter, making a total yearly salary of *thirteen pounds*.

It does not appear that this street was first used as a market-place, by any official regulation; but we find that in 1671, Mr. Marmaduke Rawden, a merchant of London, who was born in this city, amongst other benefactions to his *native* place, devoted four hundred pounds to the erection of a *Cross*, at the end of All-Saints' church, for the accommodation of the public. It was a small square building, with a dome, ascended into by winding stairs, and supported by twelve pillars of the Ionic order. About the same time, some houses which stood at the end of the church, were purchased and taken down, in order to enlarge the market-place; and archbishop Sterne, for the same purpose, gave leave for the north-side of the church-yard to be contracted.

The following year, the corporation raised the cross higher, and placed a turret and vane on the top of it. The expense of this alteration, amounted to one hundred pounds, and the appearance of the building was greatly improved. Thus the cross stood till the month of January, 1813, when it was considered as unnecessary, and was accordingly taken down, and the materials were sold by auction.

ALL-HALLOWS CHURCH,

Commonly called ALL-SAINTS, PAVEMENT,

Stands partly in High-Ousegate, but the principal part in Pavement. By an old grant to the abbey of Fountains, the rector of this church is styled "*Rector ecclesie omnium sanctorum in Usegata.*"

This church is a very ancient structure, and Drake observes, that the north side of it is almost wholly built out of the ruins of EBORACUM; indeed the body of the church, and part of the steeple, are of very antique appearance; but this edifice is chiefly remarkable for a more modern erection on the old steeple, of exquisite Gothic architecture. It is light, airy, and elegant, of an octangular form, having a Gothic window, without glass, on each side; and the top is adorned with corresponding pinnacles, forming together a most interesting and beautiful appearance.

The writer just alluded to, says: "this tower is finished lantern wise; and tradition tells us, that anciently a large lamp hung in it, which was lighted in the night time, as a mark for travellers to aim at, in their passage over the immense forest of Galtres to the city—there is still the hook or pully, on which the lamp hung in the steeple."

Various opinions have been entertained respecting the lantern tower; but none of them which the author has seen, appear to be without objection. In the wall of it is a grave-stone, on which is one of those crosses that were chiefly confined to the tomb stones of the clergy; but were not in use till about or after the time of the croisades, which terminated in the fourteenth century. As none but an old grave-stone would be likely to be placed in such a situation, it may hence be concluded that the lantern is not more than four hundred years old; and with such a supposition, it's present state of preservation perfectly accords.

The generally received opinion, of it's having been designed to guide to the city the benighted travellers, who were wandering on the extensive forest of Galtres, is highly probable; for, though this vast tract, which once extended nearly twenty miles, had probably been much reduced before this tower was built; yet, the modern state of the country, admits a strong presumption, that even since the period thus assigned for it's erection, a very large extent of the forest remained waste land, so as to render such an object most desirable and essential.

The lantern placed on the top of the main tower of the minster, is of too modern a date, to interfere with the original design of this elegant structure, as that was not built till the year 1666, and was intended as a beacon, in case of invasion.

In confirmation of the received opinion respecting the lantern tower of Pavement church, there are yet to be seen across the windows, iron bars that appear to have been designed for supporting the glass; in addition to which, the hook or pully mentioned before, as intended for suspending the light, is certainly a very strong presumptive proof.

Many similar instances of care for the way-worn traveller, might be adduced in erections of this nature, besides the practice which is still continued in some parts of this county, of ringing the parish bells the evening before the market-day—a custom, the origin of which is very evident, though not generally known.

The entrance to *All-Saints*, is by a descent of a few steps, the street having been raised since the erection of the building. It consists of three aisles, and is very neat and convenient within. The church is an ancient rectory, and before the conquest, belonged to the prior and convent of

Durham. At the reformation, it was seized by the crown. Here are several very old monumental inscriptions, some of which are dated more than four hundred years ago.

The chancel being much out of repair, was in February, 1782, wholly taken down, and the ground on which it stood, was devoted to enlarge the market-place; in consequence of which, the corporation contributed one hundred pounds towards rebuilding the east wall. The whole fabric underwent a thorough repair at the same time. Part of the present burying-ground of this church, was formerly occupied as a herb and fish market, as appears by the following extract from an ancient manuscript of a York antiquary, now in the writer's possession: "The *Herb Market* was in a square, surrounded with small shops, adjoining to All-Hallows' church-yard, built in 1712, where some houses had been burnt down. In this place was also kept a *Fish Market*, for some years. But, in the year 1783, the parish procured this from the corporation; and taking down all the little shops and the wall, laid the whole to the church-yard, to enlarge their burying-ground. This was allowed by the corporate body, in return for the

ground added to the street, by the removal of the chancel."

Notice has already been taken of one of the three *Newspapers* printed in York; and nearly opposite this church, is the office of another. It is called "THE YORK HERALD, AND GENERAL ADVERTISER;" and was first published on Saturday, the second of January, 1790, by *Wilson, Spence, and Mawman*. The latter partner, however, soon had the whole transferred to himself; and it was continued in the Whig interest, by *Mr. Joseph Mawman*, till the 19th of October, 1799; on which day it was printed by *Mr. Alexander Bartholoman*. He continued proprietor of it till 1811, when he died, and was succeeded by *Spence and Deighton*; but this firm was not of long continuance; various alterations took place, and new partners were admitted, till in July, 1813, it became the sole property of *Hargrove, Gawthorp, and Cobb*, who are the present proprietors. It is published on the morning of Saturday, the market-day, and has a very extensive circulation, particularly amongst the gentlemen of the turf.

A little below All-Saints' church, on the opposite side of the street, is the "*White Swan*,"

an excellent inn, and travellers' house; and about 300 yards further down the street, on the same side, is a road, by sufferance, from the Pavement into Fossgate, called "*Lady Peckitt's Yard.*" At the corner of the *Shambles*, is the parish church of

ST. CRUX, OR HOLY CROSS,

Vulgarly called *Crouse Church*, and supposed to have been built in 1424; as a commission, dated September the sixth, in that year, was directed to William, bishop of Dromore, commanding him to dedicate this building. It was given by Nigell Fossard, lord of Doncaster, to our St. Mary's Abbey, and contributed the sum of twenty shillings annually to that religious house.

This church is remarkable for its handsome square steeple of brick, ornamented with a small dome at the top. The steeple was erected in 1697, chiefly at the expense of the parish, except some few voluntary contributions, augmented by the liberality of archbishop Sharp; but much of the beauty of this steeple is lost, by having the appearance of leaning considerably on one side.

There is in the choir, a large, curious, and once elegant monument of Sir Robert Walter, knight, twice lord mayor, who died May 12, 1612;

with the effigies of himself, his wife, and three children; and ornamented with several other figures, some of very singular appearance. There are likewise various monumental inscriptions, including that of Sir Tankard Robinson, bart., and several men who were of eminence; but, the most remarkable personage reputed to have been interred in this church, is *Sir Thomas Herbert*, a celebrated traveller, and ingenious author, the son of Christopher Herbert, and grandson of Thomas Herbert, merchant and alderman of York.

The writer has, with others, examined all the monumental inscriptions, but he cannot find any remains of one to the memory of Sir T. Herbert; he therefore must conclude, that Mr. Drake was either incorrect in asserting that he was here interred, or that the usual record to his memory has been removed. As, however, he was a native of the city, further notice should be taken of his life and character.

Mr. Herbert, afterwards Sir Thomas, was during some of his younger days, at Jesus College, Oxford, whence he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, where having finished his studies, the earl of Pembroke, his near relative, provided

him, in 1626, with money to take an extensive tour for improvement, his lordship intending to procure him all the advancement in life within the range of his exalted rank. The youthful traveller, thus supplied and encouraged, pursued his course through various parts of Africa and Asia, in search of intellectual treasures; after which, he returned to the land of his nativity, and was invited by the earl of Pembroke, to dine with him, the day after his arrival, at Baynard's Castle, in London. Flushed with delusive hopes, and anticipating joys never to be realized, he accepted the invitation; but inscrutable are the ways of Providence, and mysterious is the path which human nature often has to tread. That night his noble patron suddenly passed from time into eternity; and thus did the hand of death, blast all his fond expectations.

Soon after this mournful event, he again left England, and visited several parts of Europe. On his return, he married; and settling in his native country, passed his time in literary pursuits. In 1634, he published an account in folio, of his travels in Africa and Asia, especially in the Persian dominions, and in several parts of India and the oriental islands; a work of considerable

merit, and which passed through several editions; the fourth of which, printed at London, in 1677, folio, with plates, is at the present day, ranked amongst scarce and valuable works.

In the civil wars of Charles the first, he adhered to the cause of parliament; and was even an acting commissioner, in the army, with Sir Thomas Fairfax. At the treaty of Holdenby, in 1646, when several of the king's menial attendants were discharged by order of the commissioners of the parliament, Mr. Herbert was placed near the royal person: and, in this situation became a convert to his cause, and served the king with great fidelity, to the moment of his majesty's death. He also wrote an historical account of the last two years of the life of Charles the first, which he entitled "*Threnodia Carolina*."

On the restoration of Charles the second, Mr. Herbert, was created a baronet, as a reward for his services, by the name of Sir Thomas Herbert, of Tintern, in Monmouthshire; where he had an estate. He lived highly respected, and died in York, in 1681, in the 76th year of his age.

The church of St. Crux is bounded on the north by a narrow passage, leading from the

Shambles to *Whipmawhopmagate* ; and on the south, formerly was part of the parish burying-ground, extending to a row of houses, the whole length of the church ; and forming a very narrow and inconvenient lane, generally inhabited by Hosiers, and consequently called

HOSIER-LANE.

Those dwellings built on the church-yard, and which fronted the houses that are yet standing on the south side of the church, were purchased by the corporation, about the year 1771, to improve the street. They were accordingly taken down, the cellars filled up, and the ground on which they stood, together with the remainder of the church-yard on that side, was added to the street ; a broad causeway of flag stones being, at the same time, laid in front of the church. The burying-ground on the north side was parcelled out to those who had houses adjoining, and a sum of money was raised by that means, with which the parishioners purchased a piece of ground in Hungate, far more decent and suitable, for the purpose of interment.

The next object of notice in Walmgate-Ward, is

FOSSGATE;

A long narrow street, extending from the Pavement to *Foss-Bridge*. It was formerly remarkable for being the market for sea-fish; but that article is now chiefly exposed for sale in Pavement, and Thursday-Market, now called Sampson's-Square.

Proceeding down Fossgate, Newcombe's General Carriers' Warehouses will be observed on the right; but as they are noticed with the other similar establishments, we shall proceed to the

MERCHANTS'-HALL,

Or, *Gilda Mercatorum* of York, which is the property of a numerous, respectable, and affluent body of men, termed "*The Merchants' Company*," originally established in this city, at a very early period, to encourage the trade of York, which was then considerable. This company has, however, survived all the fluctuations and final decline of the foreign commerce of this city, but its funds having been extended by several considerable donations, it yet confers many pri-

villeges on the members, whose engagements are now chiefly respecting domestic regulations*.

The hall is situated on the right side of the street, is of great antiquity, and is stated by tradition to have been built out of the remains of a religious house, called "*Trinity Chapel*;" which stood here in the earliest ages of Christianity. A piece of ground behind the building, and now occupied as a garden, is supposed to have been used as the place of interment, and evinces by corroborating circumstances, the correctness of the supposition; for in digging it over, at various periods, quantities of human bones have been thrown up.

The outer entrance to the Merchants'-Hall, from Fossgate, is by an old stone arch-way, over

* There is also a very ancient Company of Merchants in York, distinct from the one here mentioned. It is called, "*The Company of Hans Merchants*;" and it's members being free of the five Hans Towns, enjoy many valuable privileges on importation of goods thence. The effects of the late war have, however, for several years, prevented the usual intercourse between the original company abroad, and it's minor societies in this country, which are but three in number, viz: one each in London, York, and Bristol; but it is hoped that peace will renew the friendly connexion.

which are to be seen the corroded arms of merchants of the staple, too imperfect for minute description. Passing through this door-way into a small yard, the entrance to the upper and principal story of the building, is by a flight of stone steps, at the top of which, a short passage leads to the rooms occupied by the Merchants' company. On each side of this passage or landing, are small rooms, originally intended for the immediate purposes of the company; but at present they are let, as are also two below, one on each side the steps, to poor families.

Entering a second door, there is a small room on the right, called "*The Court of Assistants' Room*;" also near it is a store-room, and beyond them is the kitchen, containing boilers, and other requisites for cooking, as the company of merchants dine here every six months. These are merely the attendant offices; but the two principal rooms are on this story, and were formerly both in one, supported down the middle by a row of oak pillars, which now constitute the uprights of a wooden partition.

The first room is sixty-five feet long, twenty feet wide, and about fourteen feet in height. It is well lighted, and furnished with fixed seats against each side of the room.

At the farther end of each apartment, is a stage or elevation, common in all ancient halls and castles, called the *Dais*, or the *Degree*. Here the superiors of the mansion regaled themselves, while those of inferior rank were seated below. This remnant of lordly pride is about six inches in height, and fifteen feet long.

The first or outer room, just described, is now occupied as a Sunday School; and the company obligingly permit it to be used on many public occasions, for the accommodation of the citizens.

The inner room, called "*The Court Room*," is of the same dimensions as the other, but is kept in neater condition, being the room in which the *Merchants' Company* assemble. Here they hold four quarterly courts in each year; and dine together half-yearly; on which occasions, "*The Worshipful, the Governor*" presides. This officer should be chosen annually, by a majority of the members, but he is generally allowed to occupy the station three years.

Over a fire-place on the right of the entrance to this room, is a table of benefactions. In a closet, near the fire-place, the account-books of the company are kept; and on the other side, is placed a very large antique chest, bound with

iron hoops, and secured with three locks. In this archive, are deposited the ancient records of the company; commencing even so far back as the eleventh century; and with them are likewise placed many curious reliques of the ingenuity of the early ages*.

In this room, are several large modern windows, and on the opposite side, is an excellent full-length painting of George the first, presented to the company by two of its members, in 1722; also several portraits of benefactors to the company. At the upper end of the room, on the *Dais*, and raised two steps above it, is the official seat, comprising three recesses—the centre one is for the governor, whilst the other two are occupied by the deputy-governor, and any member who has served the office of governor. The seats are adorned with fluted columns on each side, surmounted by an ornamented head; and in front of them are raised desks, &c., for business. In the centre of the room, is a handsome brass chan-



* The seal of this company is very curious; and, the author having been favored with an impression of it, by J. Saunders, esq., the present governor, an engraving of this official instrument is given along with that of St. Mary's Abbey,

delier ; and near the lower end is a large antique oak table, curiously carved, used by the secretary, Mr. Ward ; to whom the writer is indebted for much information respecting this body.

The ground floor consists of a *chapel* belonging to the company ; and of a hospital, which will be noticed afterwards. The entrance to the chapel is by a passage, through a spacious area, leading into another room of very ancient appearance, in which are several massy branching oak pillars, supporting the upper part of the building. A door out of this room, formed under a stone arch, opens into the chapel. It was built in 1411, and improved in 1667 ; and is a neat small building, well suited for devotional exercises ; and furnished with the usual appendages. The seats for the members are placed in a double row on each side of the chapel, and are calculated to contain more than one hundred persons.

A sermon is preached here every six months, by the company's chaplain, who is chosen by the governor for the time being. For this service, the clergyman is paid one guinea ; and the clerk is paid two guineas per annum, for attendance on those occasions, and for reading prayers here every Wednesday and Friday, to the poor people of the hospital.

Returning from the chapel, the stranger will pass by the apartments called

TRINITY HOSPITAL.

An ancient hospital was founded here in 1373, by John de Rowcliff, dedicated to Christ and the blessed virgin, and commonly termed Trinity Hospital. The founder had letters patent from king Richard II. dated, *ut supra*, to purchase lands worth ten pounds per annum, for the sustentation of a priest or master, and for the brethren and sisters of the same. The priest was to pray for the said king, the founder, and all christian souls; also to pay weekly to thirteen poor people, and two poor scholars, constantly residing in the hospital, every of them fourpence of silver.

The founder purchased only one house and twenty-six shillings rent, and no other person having added any lands, "The governors of the mystery of merchants of the city of York, incorporated July 12th, the eighth of Henry the sixth, and authorized by the said incorporation, to purchase lands to the value of *ten pounds* per annum, and to find a priest out of the profits of the same, did enter into the said lands given to the said hospital, and of the profits and other

lands, did give yearly to a priest to *sing continually* in the said hospital, over and besides all charges, six pounds."

The ancient record above alluded to, also stated that the thirteen poor persons should still be supported in the hospital, as well as two poor clerks to teach a school, and that if the revenues increased under the management of the priest, he was authorized to procure a chaplain to assist him; and that "they both should say daily suffrages for the dead, and celebrate masses for the health and welfare of the king, the said John de Rowcliff, the mayor of the city, and *official* of the court of York for the time being; and should every week say the penitential psalms, with the litany."

Such was the original establishment of this hospital, but it was dissolved in the third of Edward the sixth; and the stipend of the priest, as also the lands, granted for maintaining of obits, lights, and lamps, was, by act of parliament, given to the king.

The *Merchants' Company* have, however, with a laudable liberality, perpetuated the charity; and by means of various donations presented to it, by several members of the company, ten

poor persons, five men and five women, are at present, supported in the apartments under the hall.

The total annual salary to each, is now *five pounds*. The men live together in two rooms, with convenient closets, &c. ; and the old women occupy two similar rooms, completely distinct; and at some distance from the former. In the apartments both of the men and women, there are as many fire-places as inmates, to prevent a repetition of disputes which, the writer is informed, anciently occurred amongst the *weaker sex*, when two or more of them were *desirous* of occupying the fire at one and the same time.

Nearly opposite *Merchants'-Hall*, formerly stood

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH.

It was but a small building, and very ancient, having been destroyed prior to the union of churches in York. No vestige now remains of it, but it will ever be an interesting object in history, from the circumstance of the *eighty* Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire archers, who were slain in the battle between the English and Hainaulters, in the first of Edward the third, having been interred under one stone, in this

church-yard; as described in the first volume, page 92.

Near *Foss-Bridge*, and on the same side as Merchants'-Hall, is a new and commodious house, called "*The King's Arms Inn*;" the accommodations at which, though not of the first rate, are very comfortable.

FOSS-BRIDGE,

At the termination of Foss-gate, is a new and neat structure, built on the site of a very ancient stone bridge, of three arches, erected in the reign of Henry the fourth.

It appears by an old charter, that Richard the second gave licence to the mayor and commonalty of York, to purchase lands to the yearly value of one hundred pounds, for the support of the bridges of Ouse and Foss; but the latter having been rebuilt, as just mentioned, authority was granted in the fourth of Henry the fourth, to the mayor and citizens of York, to collect a toll on Foss-Bridge, for all victuals, &c., conveyed that way during five succeeding years, to defray the expenses incurred.

It also appears that there was a chapel erected upon the north side of the old bridge, which was

licensed on the fourteenth of November, 1424, for the celebration of divine service. It was dedicated to *St. Anne*, though sometimes termed "*The chapel of St. Agnes*;" and prior to the dissolution, possessed three chantries of considerable value. Several of the wooden piles which supported this chapel, were drawn up, so late as the year 1734.

At the period when Camden wrote, the line of the street extended completely over the bridge, which was so crowded with houses, as to render it difficult for a stranger to ascertain when he was passing it. They were however taken down soon after his time; though we find that in 1728, several fish stalls were again erected on the south side.

The present handsome new bridge was built under the superintendence of Mr. Atkinson. The foundation-stone was laid on the fourth of June, 1811, in the presence of the committee for the Ouse and Foss Bridges, and a vast concourse of spectators. A brass plate was let into the stone, and upon it was the following inscription:

"THE FIRST STONE OF THIS BRIDGE WAS LAID BY THE
RIGHT HON. LAWRENCE DUNDAS, LORD MAYOR, ON THE FOURTH

OF JUNE, MDCCCXI., IN THE FIFTY-FIRST YEAR OF THE REIGN OF GEORGE THE THIRD, AND ON THE DAY ON WHICH HIS MAJESTY COMPLETED THE SEVENTY-THIRD YEAR OF HIS AGE. PETER ATKINSON, ARCHITECT."

At the east end of *Foss-Bridge*, stands

WILSON'S HOSPITAL, AND SCHOOL-HOUSE;

Originally founded and endowed in the year 1717. Mrs. Dorothy Wilson, a maiden lady, who resided here, bequeathed her own dwelling-house to be converted into an hospital, for ten poor women, each of them to have a room to herself; and for their maintenance, she also left certain lands at Skipwith and Nun-Monkton, from which each of the said poor women was to receive £6 10s. 0d. per annum.

The same lands were also subject to the following payments:—An annual salary of £20 to a schoolmaster, for teaching twenty boys, and reading prayers twice every day to them and the women. The boys are also to be provided with new clothes annually, and *six pounds* per annum are to be devoted to placing three of them out as apprentices. The yearly sum of *two pounds* each, is to be paid to three blind people; and the same sum to a schoolmistress, for teaching six

poor children in the parish of St. Dennis, to read.

The lands have, however, so much increased in value, that the allowance to each is now greatly augmented. The poor women in the hospital, whose salary was £6 10s. 0d., at present receive £15 each; which sum is expected shortly to be raised to £20. Thirty shillings are now allowed for each boy's clothing, instead of twenty. The schoolmaster's income is advanced from £20 to £30, and he has a convenient detached dwelling-house to live in. The schoolmistress is also paid four pounds instead of two; and the other sums are advanced in proportion.

The property is vested in the hands of seven trustees; and, in the settlement, is a very extraordinary clause, purporting that if any one of the trustees be made an *alderman of the city*, he shall cease to be a trustee.—The recorder has, however, we understand, been occasionally chosen and approved.

The original building, though very old, stood till 1765, when it was taken down by the trustees, and re-erected; but when the bridge was rebuilt, it was found requisite to take the hospital down a second time; and it was then handsomely built

with bricks, as it now appears, with the following inscription placed in front :

“ *THIS HOSPITAL AND SCHOOL-HOUSE WERE ENDOWED BY MRS. DOROTHY WILSON, SPINSTER, FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF TEN POOR WOMEN ; AS ALSO FOR THE INSTRUCTION IN ENGLISH, READING, WRITING, &c., AND CLOTHING, OF TWENTY POOR BOYS FOR EVER. SHE DEPARTED THIS LIFE, THE THIRD OF NOVEMBER, 1717.*”

BELOW THIS IS ALSO INSCRIBED :

“ The foundation-stone of this building was laid June 3rd, 1812, by Christopher Morritt, esq., in the 52nd year of the reign of George the III.

Christopher Morritt,	}	Esquires.
* William Richardson,		
Thomas Norcliffe,		
James Walker,		
* Charles Best,		
Edward Wallis,		
George Palmes,		

Trustees to Mrs. Dorothy Wilson's Charity.”

Those Trustees marked with the asterisk, are since dead ; and have been succeeded by others. Mr. Walker also has resigned.

The premises now comprise the front building, in which are one room and one closet for each poor woman ; also a convenient school-room, and an apartment in which the trustees hold their meetings. Behind this building is a small yard, also the schoolmaster's dwelling-house, built in 1805 ; and beyond it is a piece of ground for drying clothes, and for other conveniences.

WALMGATE,

Is a broad open street, except the lowest part, and extends from Foss-Bridge to Walmgate-Bar. Many opinions have been entertained respecting the derivation of this name; some imagining it merely implied "*Tripe-Street*;" others, that this name was a corruption of "*Watlingate*," an ancient street so called, without the Bar; which latter was the opinion of Mr. Drake; but with all due deference to that learned antiquary, the author of this work must dissent from both the preceding derivations, as he is convinced that the name is but a corruption of "*Vallum-Gate*"—VALLUM being the latin name for a wall or bulwark for security, and this street not only leading to the present *Walmgate-Bar*, but also to the ancient *Bar* of Fishergate, and to the *Red Tower*. The transition is easy from *Vallum*, to *Valm*, and we know that V is, even to this day, often pronounced as W; especially in the south.

The first object of public interest, beyond the bridge, is on the right, and is called

THE CHURCH OF ST. DENNIS,

Formerly written St. Dyonis.

There is a tradition that this church was originally a *Jewish Synagogue*, or *Tabernacle*;

but the writer has not been able to trace the rise of this opinion. In Wilson's *Classical Antiquities of the Jews, Greeks, and Romans*, it is observed: "The Jews erected synagogues not only in towns and cities, but also in the country, especially near rivers, that they might have water for their purifications and ceremonious washings;" and this church stands not far from the river *Foss*.

It was formerly a handsome pile of building, with a neat and lofty spire in the midst of it; which was perforated by a shot, in the last siege of York. This church was much reduced, by taking down the west end, in 1798, in consequence of the foundation being injured by a large and deep drain, passing too near it; which was intended to draw the water from the *Foss Islands*.

When the west end was pulled down, the spire was also removed, and a square tower erected in it's place, which yet remains. We, however, cannot term the alteration an improvement as to appearance, in any respect; for it not only gives a heaviness to the structure, which did not attend it before, but the reduction has rendered what was originally the length of the church, shorter than it's breadth; and hence

presents to the eye a fabric, singular and novel in the extreme.

The ancient *porch* here, as it stood prior to the west end being taken down, was a very interesting remnant of the early ages. It was in some degree, similar to the much-admired one at St. Margaret's church, exhibiting a variety of curious figures, mouldings, &c., in good preservation. Though the porch was removed, the carved stone door-way was carefully replaced at the entrance, where it now remains.

The interior of the church is dry and neat; and the ascent to it is by several steps. Against the wall, on one side of the altar, is an antique female figure, in the attitude of prayer, with an inscription to the memory of Mrs. Dorothy Hughes, wife of Robert Hughes, of Uxbridge, in Middlesex, esq. She was descended from the ancient family of the Redmonds, at Harewood, in this county.

On the opposite wall, is an elegant marble monument, erected by the present Mr. Hotham, to the memory of his brother, Robert Welbourne Hotham, esq., who served the office of sheriff of York, in 1801, and died in 1806. Near the top of it, is a dove descending towards a weeping figure, which is represented leaning upon an urn,

at the base of which, are the family arms: Beneath, is an appropriate inscription, and under it, are displayed the insignia of military honors; he having been a captain in the York Volunteers. His remains are deposited in the family vault near the monument.

There were formerly several ancient inscriptions in this church, including one to the memory of Vice-Admiral Holmes, a native of the city, who died in 1558; and the painted glass in the windows had been preserved with great care; but much of the antiquity has been destroyed by the late alterations.

On one side of the church is a tablet, with an inscription, stating amongst other less important donations, that George Fothergill, gentleman, who resided in Micklegate, left by will, bearing date the 12th of January, 1767, *one hundred pounds*, to be placed out on good security by the churchwardens and overseers, and the interest of it annually distributed amongst the poor of the parish, on St. James's day.

At the opposite side, or north aisle of this church, was the family vault of the *earls of Northumberland*, and over or near it, formerly were two effigies, upon a large slab of blue mar-

ble, accompanied with an inscription on brass; but they are no more to be seen. It is however affirmed, that in this vault, were deposited the remains of Henry, earl of Northumberland; who fell, fighting for the house of Lancaster, at the memorable battle of *Towton Field*.

In the collection of drawings, epitaphs, &c., deposited at the office of arms, by Sir William Dugdale, are the representations of several of this family, in a kneeling posture, which were copied from the painted windows in this choir, now greatly defaced. It is by no means surprising, that traces of this noble family should be found here; for opposite to the north side of St. Dyonis, and near to Gibson's iron-foundry, formerly stood the palace of the earls of Northumberland; at which time this, no doubt, must have been their parish church.

On the death of Henry, earl of Northumberland, who was slain at the battle of St. Albans, in the 33d of Henry VI., and was father to the before-mentioned earl, an account was taken of his property, in which was included a certain house in Walmgate, in the parish of St. Dyonis, in York, called "*Percy's Inn*," which is some confirmation of this account. Dugdale has also alluded to this house; and says that on the ground

where it stood, there was found, by a labourer, several years before, one arm of a gold cup, so heavy as to be sold for the sum of fifty pounds.

Percy's Inn seems to have been occupied by other families, after the earls of Northumberland forsook it; for it is an object of interest in the biographical memoir of the learned MARMADUKE FOTHERGILL, who was born there in the year 1652, and whose books and manuscripts were presented by his widow to the dean and chapter of York, as an addition to the Minster Library.

The subject of this memoir was the eldest son of an opulent citizen, who had honorably acquired a fortune by trade. He was educated at Cambridge, and early embraced the ecclesiastical profession; in consequence of which he possessed, prior to the revolution, the living of Skipwith, in the county of York, and had received a promise for the next presentation to the rectory of Lancaster. This political change, however, altered his views respecting the church, and being determined never more to take any oath of allegiance; he retired from it, and lived contented and happy on the income of his paternal estate.

He was very remarkable both for learning and piety, and was a great friend and admirer of

literary characters. Hence he often visited the University, but always travelled on foot; and though he performed all the exercises required, and gave the usual treat for the degree of doctor of divinity, he would not even there comply with the government oaths, and therefore could not ever assume the title.

His biographer says he was of the middle stature, rather corpulent; but, of so robust a constitution, that no cold could affect him. He accustomed himself so much to the severity of the weather, that even in the depth of winter, he could jump out of bed and roll himself in the snow, which he frequently did, without injury. In deportment, he was grave and majestic; his complexion was clear, his features manly, and his hair as white as wool.

To ecclesiastical antiquity he paid great attention, and had made large collections of manuscripts on the subject, which he once designed to have published; and would have done so, had not extreme modesty operated to prevent him. He read the book of common prayer daily to his own family; and taught the duties of a christian, by the purity of his example and by the dignity of his conversation.

Thus he lived to the great age of seventy-nine years, and on the 7th of September, in the year 1731, he departed this life, with all the resignation and cheerfulness which accompany the close of such a virtuous course, and are the blessed attendants on a well-founded hope, anticipating celestial enjoyments, and blooming with immortality.

Proceeding down a lane on the north side of this church, called "*St. Dennis' Church Lane*," the stranger will soon arrive at an *alms house*, distinguished by the name of

THE MAISON DIEU.

It was formerly maintained by the company of cordwainers; and though much uncertainty exists respecting the period of its erection, and who was its original founder, yet the credit of being so, is generally ascribed to that body.

The company of cordwainers were united for the protection and encouragement of their trade. They were certainly of great antiquity; for we find, (see page 114 of this volume) that archbishop Scrope presented the company of cordwainers with a large and handsome bowl, in 1398.

How long they had existed as a body, previous to that year, is a matter of doubt.

An act of parliament, on which they grounded their right to regulate the markets and the trade in general, having however been repealed; they, in 1808, dissolved the fraternity. The entire patronage of the Maison Dieu was, with its writings, &c., previously transferred by the company to Mr. Hornby, one of the principal members; who finding the building in a very ruinous state, took the whole down, and generously rebuilt it in the year 1811, at his own expense.

This alms-house now consists of four separate comfortable dwellings, each of which contains one room on the ground floor, and one over it. They are yet occupied by aged and decayed shoemakers, who pay *one penny* per annum acknowledgment to the present patron. The pecuniary donations to this charity do not exceed a few shillings per annum.

On the top of the building are a cupola and bell, which, before the company was dissolved, was always tolled on the death of any of its members. Divine service was also performed in the alms-house occasionally, at which the members were obliged to attend. From this source, may be traced the origin of its name.

WALMGATE-WARD.

The dwellings are built with bricks; and in front is the following inscription:

"Maison Dieu, rebuilt Anno Dom. 1811."

Returning by the church of St. Dennis, and proceeding up Walmgate, on the right, is a lane anciently called

NEUTGATE-LANE.

Neot being a small *Lizard*, often found in low marshy places, evidently proves that this lane, which certainly is very low and wet, is indebted for its name to its situation. It leads from Walmgate to Fishergate-Bar already described; and at the corner of this lane, facing Walmgate, is the

HABERDASHERS' HALL;

A very ancient timber building, erected by Sir Robert Watter, knight, who served the office of lord mayor, in 1591. He was a haberdasher, and built it for his brethren of the trade to assemble in. It has, however, long been disused by them; and is at present divided, and let in small tenements. Within Neutgate-Lane, on the left, stands a long row of low tenements, called

SIR ROBERT WATTER'S HOSPITAL.

This alms-house was also founded by the individual whose name it bears. Drake, on the

authority of Torre, mentions that " Sir Robert Watter, knight, by his will, proved June 15th, 1612, appointed that an hospital should be erected out of his houses in *Nowtgate*, York; which should be for the perpetual maintenance of ten persons. To consist of a master, governor, or reader, who should have three pounds per annum for his stipend; and of certain brethren and sisters; to every of which *forty shillings* per annum should be allowed; and that the said rent of *twenty-four pounds* per annum, should issue out of the lordship of Cundale."

Such is represented as the original endowment; and the estate chargeable with the payment, being now the property of Mrs. Cholmley, of Howsham, in the east-riding of Yorkshire; that lady's solicitors, Messrs. Thorpe and Gray, pay the salary to the present inhabitants, half-yearly. There has however been, by some means, a considerable reduction in the charity; for, on personal investigation, the writer found the number of dwellings was only seven, each of which is the habitation of an aged woman. The evident remains of an erection for the prayer bell, are yet to be seen; but the bell itself, and the reader also, are gone;



and the seven poor women receive no more money annually than *forty shillings* each ; hence the amount now paid to this alms-house, is only *fourteen pounds* per annum.

How this reduction has been occasioned, the writer cannot learn, though it certainly is a question of importance. The hospital is a very low building, and possesses little convenience for it's inmates ; each dwelling containing only one room, with scarcely any yard behind, and the front opens into the lane. On the wall of the first dwelling, is the following old inscription :

“THE: HOSPITALL: OF: SIR : ROBERT : WATTER : KC:
TWISE : LORDE ; MAIOR : OF ; YORKE ; REPAIRED : AD:
1627.”

Since writing the above, the author has succeeded in obtaining a perusal of the founder's will, in the spiritual court of this city ; and from it he learns that, though Drake and Torre were not strictly correct, the true intent and meaning of the original endowment was, that *ten persons* should reside in the *seven cottages* ; one of whom, was to receive *three pounds* per annum, on condition that he should daily read prayers, &c., to the re-

maining *nine persons*, who were to receive *two pounds* each—making a total of £21 per annum, chargeable on the aforesaid estate. The fact therefore is, that the charity has been improperly administered; for though the land must have considerably increased in value, *but two-thirds* of the money due to this alms-house, have been paid during many years.

Immediately on making this discovery, the author communicated the information to the respectable owner of the estate; whose honour and punctuality have ever been remarkably conspicuous, and who, as might be expected, was much surprised at the intelligence, and has promised to further investigate, and fully rectify the mistake. He had, however, conceived it requisite to procure an extract from the last will and testament of Sir Robert Watter, in order to confirm these remarks; and he has accordingly subjoined it, *verbatim*, in the confidence that the desire of the donor will now be strictly fulfilled.

“ In the Name of God Amen the xvijth of Januarie ano dni 1609, and in the yeres of the Reigne of our Sovaigne Lord James by the Grace of God Kinge of Englande Scotlande France and Ireland, that is to say of

England France and Irelande the seaventh and of Scotland the xliijth defender of the fayth &c. I Sir Robert Watter of the Citty of Yorke Knight beinge sicke in bodie but whole in mynde and in perfect memorie (thankes be to God) doe make this my last Will and Testament."

"Item Whereas I the said Sir Robert Watter Knights doe stande seized to me and to my heires of in and upon seaven sevall Houses or Cottages wherein certeyne poore people are nowe placed and dwellinge to the number of twelve scituate and beinge in a lane called Nowtegate laine which I latelie purchased with a Capitall Messuage there of my said brother William Watter. My intent and meaninge is in my lifetyme (yf yt so please God) to erect an Hospitall there for the perpetuall mayntenance and releifeinge of the said poore persons which is alreadye placed there and such other as hereafter shall succede them and be placed there by me and my heires. And my desire is the same may be made an Hospitall by Charter and to have a perpetuall succession and to consist of ten persons after the deathes of theim that is placed there as they dye whereof one of them I desire and my will is he shalbe called the Maister or governor and reader and the reste his breethren & sisters to be placed and put in there, upon their deathes successively by me and my heires for ever. And for defaulte of righte heires to me, the said poore to be placed by the Lord Maior for the tyme being the Pson of Crux Church and the Maister of the Company of Haberdashers for ever. And to be

called by the name of Sir Robert Watter's Hospitall. And for the better mayntenance of the said poore people there, and others which shall hereafter be placed there accordinge to the true meaninge of this my Will. My desire will and meaninge is that the Reader of the said Hospitall shall have & be paid and allowed unto him yerelie a pencon or stipend of three poundes per annu to to take effecte and be paid to him when as the said number shall decrease to the number of ten and to every of the rest beinge nyne in number to have forty shillings a piece yerelie to be paid to them at two feastes in the yere by even percons. And my will is that untill they come to the number of ten that the stipend of one and twenty poundes be divided equally amongst them. And I doe give the said Houses wherein the said poore people nowe doe dwell to Christofer Watter my nephewe and to his heires upon this intent truste and confidence that he shall procure within convenient tyme after my death yf the same be not done in my life tyme, that there be made there and erected an Hospitall in such sorte as by Lawe is, and shalbe necessarie and requisite. And I do further by this my Will geve devise and bequeath to the use of the said poore people for the payments of the said pencons or stipends aforesaid as well before the erection of the said Hospitall as after, one yeerlie rent of twentie one poundes to be paid yerelie forth of the Lordshipp of Cundall at two feasts in the yeere, that is to saie, at the feast of St. Martin the Bishopp in Winter and at the

feast of Pentecost by even and equall porcons or within xxiiijth daies next after either of the said feasts, for the said xxl^l. to be yssueing and goeing furth of all that my said Mannor or Lordshipp lands tents and hereditaments in Cundall aforesaid formerlie geven and bequeathed to my said nephew Christofer as aforesaid to the use of the said poore respectively as afforesaid. And my minde and will is that if my said nephew Chrofer, or the heires males of his bodie lawfullie begotten, or anie other which shall hereafter be inheritable of the said Mannor Lordshipp Lands Tents and hereditaments in Cundall aforesaid shall fail in payment of the said yeerlie rent of xxl^l. or of anie part thereof at either of the said feasts yeerlie, that then and so often, they which so makes default of payment shall forfeit the som of five poundes as a nomina pena, to and for the use of the said poore of the said Hospitall, for which arrerags of the said rent, as also of the said nomina pena, it shall and may be lawfull for the said poore of the said Hospitall (after they shalbe incorporated) to distreine for the same, and the distres to keepe untill they shalbe satisfied the said rent and arrerags together with the said nomina pena, and likewise to sue for the same in anie coet of equitie as well before the erection of the said Hospitall as after at their pleasure, to the end they may be truelie paid the same. And my minde & will is further that after the erection of the said Hospitall, the said Howses wherein the said poore people now dwell and the said rent of xxl^l. shalbe assured and conveyed upon

them and their successors for ever by my said nephew Chrofer. and his heires and successors respectively as shalbe devised by Counsell learned in forme of Law according to the true meaning of this my last Will."

Proved 15th June 1612, by William Watter, his Brother, and one of the Executors.

A little further up *Neutgate-Lane*, in a garden wall, on the same side as the hospital, is a mutilated statue of a knight templar—on his shield is a cross, *patonee*, with a bar. It is supposed to represent one of the *Latimers*.

Higher up the lane, and on the right, is the burying-ground and ancient site of

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

It was a rectory, originally under the patronage of the respectable family of Palmes, of *Naburn*, many of whom are interred here; that village being not only in the neighbourhood, but also a part of the parish of St. George. It was afterwards under the patronage of the Malbyes, of *Acaster*; and in the reign of Richard the second, it was appropriated to the nunnery of *Monkton*. In 1585, however, the church and parish of St. George were united to the church of St. Dennis, in Walmgate, and remain so at the present day.

The church-yard is an elevated situation, to which is an ascent of a few steps; and in the wall, next to Fishergate-Postern, is yet remaining a curious mutilated piece of sculpture, that, in all probability, is a sepulchral remnant of the early ages. No remains of the church are, however, now to be seen, though but a few years ago, part of the west end of the building was standing. There was one chantry founded in this church, at the altar of St. Mary, for the soul of Nicolas, son of Hugh de Sutton. The only object of interest which now meets the eye, is a tomb-stone, nearly one hundred years old; on which is *a coat of arms*, and a singular inscription; which being nearly defaced on the stone, is given below:

“ Here lyeth the body of Thomas Armstrong, of Nayburn, who departed this life October 29, 1721, being forty-four years of age. Also here lye the bodies of his children, born to him of his wife Margaret; Catherine, Isabella, Thomas, John, and George. And now, says Margaret,

“ Sleep on blest creature in thy urn,
My sighs and tears cannot awake thee;
I will but stay until my turn,
And then, oh then! I'll overtake thee.”

In this church-yard were interred the remains of *Richard Turpin*, the notorious highwayman, who was tried for horse-stealing at the Yorkshire Assizes, and executed on the seventh of April,

1739. The inhabitants of the neighbourhood still point out his grave; and tradition asserts, that early on the morning after the interment, the body was stolen for the purpose of dissection; but a mob having assembled on the occasion, it was traced by them to a garden, whence it was borne in triumph through the streets, on four men's shoulders, re-placed in the same grave, and a quantity of slacked lime deposited round the body. On the coffin was inscribed: "R. T. 28;" but he is said to have informed the executioner that he was thirty-three years of age.

The inhabitants of *Naburn*, still inter their dead in St. George's church-yard; and one head-stone bears a date so modern, as 1815.

THE WHITE AND RED LEAD MANUFACTORY,

Of Messrs. Charles Liddell and Co., is within the walls, and near the burying-ground just mentioned. The process in this extensive concern is very curious, and worthy of the stranger's attention.

The WHITE LEAD is manufactured by first melting the common pig lead, and casting it into thin substances. A quantity of horse litter,

which is procured from the barracks, is then strewed in places prepared for the purpose, and the lead is exposed over earthen pots, in which is a certain portion of vinegar. Alternate layers of litter, and of those pots, are piled to a considerable height; by which sufficient heat is generated to warm the vinegar—vapours consequently ascend, and in process of time, they corrode the lead into a kind of *calx*. The corroded parts are then ground in water, and by subsequently drying in a stove, are reduced to a beautiful white powder, called *Ceruss*; and finally packed in barrels, for the use of painters and potters.

The process in the manufacture of **RED LEAD**, is much easier. The pigs of lead are melted in a large oven, where they remain twenty-four hours; and the melted lead being then drawn out, is ground in a similar manner to the other; afterwards the finer part of it is again placed in the oven, and exposed to a greater heat than before, by which the colour becomes red; and the article, with some further trifling preparation, is ready for the potters and painters, the same as the white powder.

The lead is ground by a steam engine ; but there are also about *thirty* men and women employed in this manufactory.

The original name of *Neutgate*, has lately been changed. The old houses which formerly stood opposite the church-yard of St. George, have been taken down ; and a row of new dwellings has been erected, which is now designated

ST. GEORGE'S STREET.

This part of the city, formerly one of it's principal entrances, must at some time have been very populous ; for we find the sites of three churches very near together, viz. : the church of *St. George*, in Neutgate-Lane, that of *St. Andrew*, in Fishergate, and that of *St. Peter in the Willows*, at the upper end of

LONG CLOSE.

This was formerly a large field extending from Fishergate-Bar to Walmgate-Bar ; in which, at all the great fairs in York, horned cattle were exhibited for sale. It was formerly the property of Mr. John Watters, who sold it ; and about seven or eight years ago, it was parcelled out for gardens, and building-ground. A row of brick dwellings has since been erected ; which form

one side of a street, terminating with a common footpath, that leads through it from *St. George's-Street* to *Walmgate*. The name, *Long Close*, is still retained, which perhaps will continue beyond the present generation, and even when the original cause is entirely forgotten.

At the lower end of this new street, is a Linen Manufactory, built by Mr. John Watters, about the time of the other erections; and now occupied by Messrs. Lakeland and Co. Near the site of this factory, and not far from Walmgate-Bar, formerly stood the church of

ST. PETER, IN THE WILLOWS.

It was an ancient rectory, under the patronage of the prior and convent of Kirkham; but at the union of churches in York, it was united to St. Margaret's, and the building was suffered to decay. It appears that there was a perpetual chantry founded in this church, at the altar of St. Mary; but the founder's name, &c. are unknown. A garden behind the factory is supposed to have been the church-yard, as human bones are still frequently dug up there.

Returning down Walmgate, the next object of public interest will be found on the left,

nearly opposite to St. Margaret's church. It is called

WINTERSKELF'S HOSPITAL.

Drake passes over this hospital, with the unsatisfactory remark that it is inconsiderable; but the author of this work, having personally surveyed the premises, finds that it well deserves more particular notice.

Perceval Winterskelf, who served the office of sheriff of York, in 1705, gave to the parish of St. Margaret, certain buildings on each side of a square yard; part of which he directed should be occupied as the residence of six poor people. He ordered the remainder to be let by the parish officers to eligible tenants, and that the amount of rents should be entirely devoted to the maintenance of the six poor inmates of the hospital.

The entrance is by a narrow passage, which opens into the court-yard. The buildings are of brick, and those on one side, are occupied at present as a malt-kiln. The poor people have one room each on the ground floor, on the opposite side, and at the upper end of the yard; whilst the rooms over their dwellings are let as corn chambers, &c.

The amount of annual income, to each of the six inhabitants of the hospital, is from seven to eight pounds; by which they are not only rendered in some degree comfortable, but the parish is very materially relieved.

In one room of this hospital, the writer witnessed a very singular instance of longevity, which as it is no trifling proof of the healthy situation of our city, deserves notice. An old couple, and their daughter, have long inhabited that single room. The names of the aged pair are Christopher and Ann Mitchell; the husband is *ninety-seven* years of age, the wife *eighty-seven*; and they were married in the year 1754. The daughter, whom they yet term "*a lass*," is *sixty-one*; and appears very attentive in waiting upon her aged and venerable parents.

It is equally worthy of observation, that they are all natives of the city, and once possessed some property, but by adverse events, have lost the whole; yet, in the consciousness of integrity, they have preserved that composure of mind, which, under Providence, has insured to them length of years, and the retention of all their faculties—a circumstance highly calculated to surprise the calm observer, and to

excite the envy of those affluent, whose riches are incompetent to procure them the blessing of health.

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

Stands behind the houses on the north side of Walmgate; and presents a very humble and rural appearance, from the church being low, and from there being several large trees near it, beneath whose widely spreading branches, the turf, poetically speaking, heaves "in many a mouldering heap." This church, and that of St. Mary, which also formerly stood in this street, were conjoined into one rectory, under the patronage of the hospital of St. Peter, or St. Leonard, in this city; having been given to it by Walter Fagenulf, in the reign of the first Henry.

There are not any monumental inscriptions or other remains in this place of worship, claiming particular notice. In the year 1672, the steeple of it fell down, and seriously injured the roof of the building, which, owing to the poverty of the parish at that period, was not repaired till 1684. The roof is now covered with red tiles, and the square tower is chiefly built with bricks,

The Porch of this church is, however, an object of considerable interest; being perhaps the

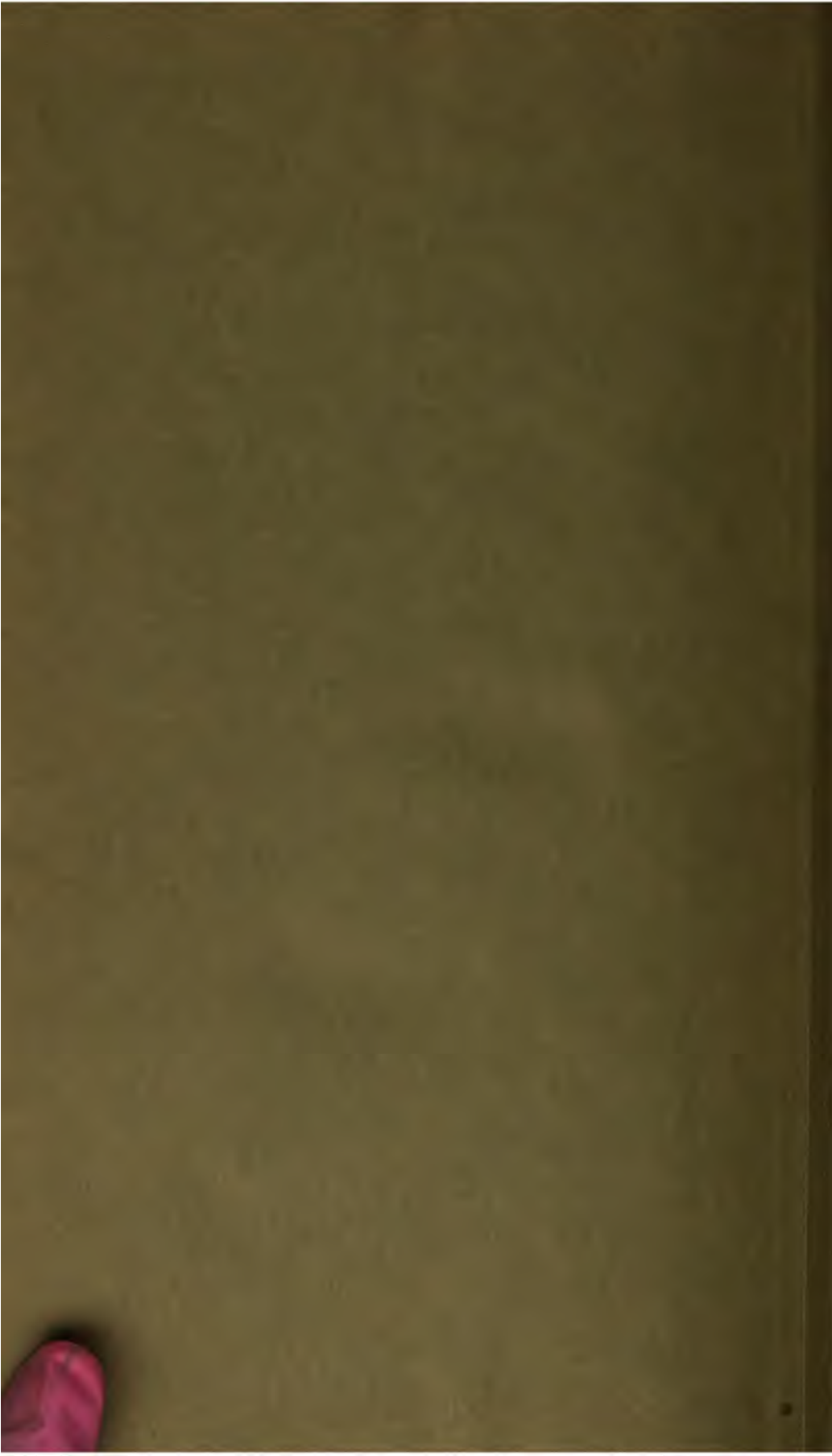
most curious and extraordinary specimen of *Saxon* sculpture and architecture, this country can exhibit. The church is certainly a very ancient structure; but when compared with the *porch*, has all the appearance of modern workmanship; hence we may be certain they are not of the same date; indeed, there are yet the evident remains of the roof of a former porch, which though in the same place, was higher than the present one.

The old Saxon porch now there, was brought from the dissolved hospital of *St. Nicholas*, *extra muros*, without the neighbouring bar, and placed in it's present situation. It comprises *four* united circular arches, below and within each other. The top or outer one, exhibits twenty-five figures, consisting of the twelve signs of the Zodiac, alternately with hieroglyphic representations of the several months in the year; below which, is a curiously carved flower moulding. The *second* arch comprises twenty-two grotesque faces. The *third*, eighteen hieroglyphic figures, probably Egyptian; and the *fourth*, fifteen figures similar to those on the preceding one. They are each supported by a light round column, producing together, an effect pleasing and singular in the extreme. Within

the porch, is a recess on each side, apparently the remains of Roman superstition; and over the door of the church, is a curiously carved arch of stone, supported by round columns, the same as the others in front. The top of the porch is crowned with a small stone *crucifix*; and the whole admirably displays the singular taste which prevailed, a short time previous to the abandonment of the *Saxon* style.

The size of this work does not admit of a plate, that would afford a correct delineation of the figures, which adorn this ancient piece of architecture; but we are glad to observe that a very fine etching of this curious porch, about sixteen inches square, has lately been published by Mr. Cave, of this city; for there not being any fence placed round the porch, to preserve it from the rude attacks of juvenile mischief, or of more advanced barbarism, it has already suffered much; and may, in the course of a short time, be completely defaced.

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